ſtrengthened by it. He thought the meaſure ſhould be referred to a committee.

The Solicitor-General oppoſed the motion, becauſe he thought no reaſon ſtrong enough had been brought in ſupport of it. He wiſhed that principle to be avoided which led us to introduce our laws among other people, without conſidering how far they are adapted to their habits and cuſtoms.

Mr. Fox contended, that an appellant juriſdiction was a meaſure of wiſdom and juſtice. The allowances we muſt make for human frailty, ſuggeſted the propriety of a reviſion. In Scotland, before the Union, an appeal lay to the Privy Council, which proved that the idea of appeal was recognized in Scotland. The ſituation of that judge muſt be miſerable indeed, ſaid Mr. Fox, who knew that his deciſions were final.

Mr. Adam roſe and replied to the arguments againſt his motion; and declared, that if now it was negatived he would, early in March, move for leave to bring in the other bills he had given notice of.

The Houſe then divided,

For the motion,	-	31
Againſt it,	- -	126
Majority,		——95

THE BUDGET.

5. The Chancellor of the Exchequer ſaid, on a ſubject of ſuch momentous concern, which muſt be felt by every man in that Houſe, he ſhould enter fully, and at the ſame time be as conciſe as the nature of it would admit; he ſhould ſtate the ſeveral heads, and the plan which he propoſed to ſubmit to their conſideration. In the firſt place, he would lay before them the votes and eſtimates which had already undergone the reviſion of the Houſe, and ſtate the particulars and amounts of the ways and means, and ſupply, which had been voted by the unanimous ſenſe of the Houſe; he ſhould then point out the reſources and taxes which he meant to refer to their conſideration.

The chief head for their conſideration was the navy. In which this year, unprecedented exertions had been made to make it reſpectable; the liberal grant of 85,000 ſeamen proved the neceſſity of the exertion, this complement wanted only 10,000 men.

The ſecond head for inſpection was the army. Here a large augmentation was thought neceſſary, the grant propoſed he allowed was equal to our neceſſity. The number of foreign troops amounted to between 30,000 and 40,000. The force of the ordnance would amount to 5000. The whole employed aroſe to the enormous number of 250,000 men.

In the next place the total of the ſupply amounted to the ſum of 19,94,000l. the total of the navy, 5,523,000l. of the army including foreign troops, 6,340,000l. the amount of the ordnance, 1,345,000l. The total charge of the army, navy, and ordnance, was 13,210,000l.

The ſum which he had to provide was 908,181l. and he ſhould think himſelf but little adequate to the taſk impoſed on him were he to ſhrink at that. The times require an exertion to give energy to every operation, and there is a candour neceſſary in ſtating grievances that they may be alleviated; he ſaid there was 400,000l. to diſpoſe of; and the average of the two laſt years was in the ſurplus, to the amount of 385,000l. The taxes, which, with the concurrence of the committee, he ſhould have to propoſe, were thoſe which he thought might be little felt—they were not to be new ones, but an encreaſe of thoſe already eſtabliſhed. The duties upon home and foreign ſpirits, which were rendered ſtill more deſirable from the circumſtance of the French having, by their general proſcription, prohibited even ſmuggling; this was only a temporary meaſure, as the high prices and advantages muſt ceaſe in time of peace; the ſum propoſed was one penny on every gallon of home-made ſpirits, 10d. on brandy, and 8d. on rum; the reaſon why the two laſt were not on equal terms, was from local, and other conſiderations which ariſe from the difficulty of ſmuggling the latter in compariſon of the former. The aggregate of theſe, according to the beſt calculations he could make, was, on the home ſpirits 107,000l. and on the foreign 136,000l. The next

article

article was bricks and tiles, which he ſaid, from late circumſtances, was very likely to bring in conſiderable produce; 2s. 6d. *per* thouſand on the former, and 1s. 6d. *per* thouſand on the latter, would make 70,000l. The next articles are ſtones and ſlates, which from their nature will be proportionably productive. The firſt of which is peculiarly ſo from the late method of coaſting, 10s. *per* ton on ſlates, and 2s. 6d. *per* ton on the ſtone, which will amount to 30,000l. The next is an article of luxury, and went particularly to what was called crown and plate glaſs; 16s. 1d. *per* cwt. on crown, and 1l. 16s. *per* cwt. on plate, which amount to 52,000l. The next duty that he meant to propoſe was on paper, which he meant to claſs into three different kinds, as it was difficult to diſtinguiſh the numerous and various kinds; theſe when taken in the amount, will be 63,000l. Upon the ſubject which was to follow, he ſhould confeſs it did not originate with himſelf, but with a reſpectable law character high in office. The object was attorneys, and which he did not mean by this tax totally to deſtroy. The method was, that they ſhould pay 100l. for the indenture that binds them apprentice, and thoſe who were not already admitted and ſworn in, ſhould, upon ſuch occaſions, pay the ſame ſum.

He then took notice of the ſtagnation of trade in the year 1793, as dreadful as it was uncommon; yet in that year, the produce was greater than the preceding, which the revenue accounts prove, by the ſum of 500,000l. ſo that there has been a greater ſurplus than in the moſt fortunate period.

RECAPITULATION.

SUPPLY.	£.
Navy, - -	5,5[illegible],000
Army, including foreign troops,	6,340,000
Ordnance, - -	1,345,000
Miſcellaneous Services, -	200,000
Addition to the Sinking Fund,	200,000
Deficiency of Grants, -	474,000
Ditto Land and Malt, -	380,000
Exchequer Bills, -	5,500,000
	19,940,000

WAYS AND MEANS.	£.
Land and Malt, -	2,750,000
Growing Produce, -	2,697,000
Loan, - -	11,000,000
Exchequer Bills, -	3,500,000
	19,947,000

Proviſion for the additional charge to be incurred on the Conſolidated Fund.

	£.
Intereſt on 11,[illegible],000l. borrowed, and a proportional increaſe to the Sinking Fund, -	638,000
Ditto to be provided, and a proportional increaſe to the Sinking Fund for 4,200,000l. for Navy debt, and future Navy payment, to keep down the Navy debt, for the purpoſe of avoiding diſcount on Navy Bills, -	248,151
Tax on Burials and Gloves, to be repealed, - -	10,600

TAXES.	£.
Surplus Taxes 1791 unappropriated, and of Scotch ſpirits 1793,	428,000
Bricks and Tiles, -	70,000
Britiſh Spirits, -	107,000
Foreign ditto, - -	136,000
Slate and Stone, - -	30,000
Glaſs, - -	52,000
Paper, - -	63,000
Attornies Indentures, -	25,000
	911,000

Mr. Fox roſe to give his approbation to the loan, which had been explained with impartial candour. He was ever willing to beſtow praiſe where merited; and he thought the bargain for the public as advantageous as could be made. He lamented that the taxes which were ſaid to be intended to affect only one part of the community, would be found equally applicable to the whole. He ſhould only inſtance the article of ſugar, which was conſumed even by the pooreſt as one of the neceſſaries of life. He took a review of the public credit at the commencement of this year, and the ſtate of it during the American war, and concluded with obſerving that the ſucceſſes were not ſo great, if we were to allow that as the touchſtone of political proſperity.

The queſtion was then put and carried.

THOUGHTS ON POETRY.

(CONCLUDED.)

THIS is what is called the inſpiration of Poetry, and what can never be either acquired by precept, or obtained by pains. It is ſomething of too fine a nature to come within the power of definition; and all the rules and diſſertations of all the critics in the world, can never ſupply the place of genius, or kindle an imagination that is obſcure in nature. Receipts for poetical compoſition, like the Pope's anathemas, begin to loſe their virtue, and be univerſally deſpiſed. The truth is, they touch only on the externals or form of the thing, without entering into the ſpirit of it: they play about the ſurface of Poetry; but never dive into its depth. The ſecret, the ſoul of good writing is not to be come at through ſuch mechanic laws; the main graces, and the cardinal beauties, as they are ſomewhere ſtyled, of this charming art, are too retired within the boſom of nature, and are of too fine and ſubtile an eſſence, to fall under the diſcuſſion of pedants and commentators. Theſe beauties, in ſhort, are rather to be felt than deſcribed. By what precepts ſhall a writer be taught only to think poetically, or to trace out, among the various powers of thought, that particular vein or feature of it which poetry loves; and to diſtinguiſh between the good ſenſe which may have its weight and juſtneſs in proſe, and that which is of the nature of verſe? What inſtruction ſhall convey to him that flame which can alone animate a work, and give it the glow of Poetry? And how, and by what induſtry ſhall be learned, among a thouſand other charms, that delicate contexture in writing, by which the colours, as in the rainbow, grow out of one another, and every beauty owes its luſtre to a former, and gives being to a ſucceeding one? Could certain methods be laid down for obtaining theſe excellencies, every one that pleaſed might be a poet, as every one that pleaſes may be a geometrician, if he will but have due patience and attention. Many of the graces in Poetry may be talked of in very intelligible language, but intelligible only to thoſe who have a natural taſte for it, or are born with a talent of judging. To have what we call Taſte, is having, one may ſay, a new ſenſe or faculty ſuperadded to the ordinary ones of the ſoul, the prerogative of fine ſpirits! and to go about to pedagogue a man into this ſort of knowledge, who has not the ſeeds of it in himſelf, is the ſame thing as if one ſhould teach an art of ſeeing without eyes. True conceptions of Poetry can no more be communicated to one born without taſte, than adequate ideas of colours can be given to one born without ſight; all which is ſaying no more than it would be to ſay, that to judge finely of muſic, it is requiſite to have naturally a good ear for it. Thoſe celeſtial bodies, which, through their diſtance, cannot appear to us but by the help of glaſſes, do yet as truly exiſt as if they could be ſeen by the naked eye: ſo are the graces of poetry, though they come within the reach but of few, as real as if they were perceptible alike to all. The difference is, the teleſcope, which brings the one to our view, is artificial; that which ſhews us the other is natural: In ſhort, the ſame arguments that will convince a ſightleſs man of the reality of light, and another who has no idea but of noiſe, of the reality of harmony, will as concluſively prove to one wholly void of taſte, the exiſtence of poetical excellencies. Some of theſe, it is allowed, may be diſcourſed of with accuracy and clearneſs enough; that is to ſay, ſo as to be underſtood by thoſe who underſtand them already; but there are others of that exquiſite nicety, that they will not fall under any deſcription, nor yield to the torture of explanation. We are irreſiſtibly captivated by them wherever we find them in good authors, without being able to ſay preciſely what that power is that captivates us; as when one views a very beautiful woman, one is immediately affected with her beauty, though we cannot mechanically explain the cauſe which has that force over us; we feel the enchantment, and the eye ſtrikes it into the heart, but are at a loſs for the ſolutions and reaſons of it; we know

we are ſilently ſtruck by the power of a certain proportion or ſymmetry, but do not ſtrictly know the meaſure of that ſymmetry, and the poſitive laws by which it is governed. Poetry, in this particular view of it, as Dryden obſerves, may be ſaid to flow from a ſource, which, like the Nile, it conceals: the ſtream is rich and tranſparent, while the fountain is hid. Here then, at leaſt, rules are impracticable; but it muſt not be underſtood by this aſſertion, that the talent of writing in verſe is a lawleſs myſtery, a wild ungoverned province, where reaſon has nothing to do.

It is certain that every thing depends on reaſon, and muſt be guided by it; but it is certain, that reaſon operates differently when it has different things for its object. Poetical reaſon is not the ſame as mathematical reaſon; there is in good poetry as rigid truth as there is in a queſtion of algebra, but that truth is not to be proved by the ſame proceſs or way of working. Poetry depends much more on imagination than other arts, but is not, on that account, leſs reaſonable than they; for imagination is as much a part of reaſon, as memory or judgment is, or rather a more bright emanation from it, as to paint and throw light upon ideas is a finer act of the underſtanding than ſimply to ſeparate or compare them. The plays, indeed, and the flights of fancy, do not ſubmit to that ſort of diſcuſſion which moral or phyſical propoſitions are capable of, but muſt, nevertheleſs, to pleaſe, have juſtneſs and natural truth. The care to be had in judging of things of this nature, is to try them by thoſe teſts that are proper to themſelves, and not by ſuch as are proper only to other points of knowledge. Thus, Poetry is not an irrational art, but as cloſely linked with reaſon, exerted in a right way, as any other knowledge; what it differs in, as a ſcience of reaſon, from other ſciences, is, that it does not, equally with them, lie open to all capacities; that a man, rightly to perceive the reaſon and truth of it, muſt be born with taſte, or a faculty of judging; and that it cannot be reduced to a formal ſcience, or taught by any determined precepts. In moſt other arts, care and application are chiefly required, which is not ſufficient in Poetry. A poet often owes more to his good fortune than to his induſtry, and this is what is uſually called the felicity of a writer; that is, when in the warmth of his imagination he lights upon any conception, an image, or way of turning a thought or phraſe with a beauty which he could not have attained by any ſtudy, and which no rules could have led him to; and this happineſs it is, which, in honour to great Poets, is called, or believed to be inſpiration. But the mind requires to be wonderfully filled and elevated with the contemplation of its ſubject before it hits upon thoſe ſublimities of thought, and felicities of expreſſion, and to be entirely undiſturbed by all foreign paſſions that might either call up unpleaſant ſenſations, or divert it from its object. Nothing requires ſo much chearfulneſs and ſerenity of ſpirit: It muſt not be either overwhelmed, ſays Cowley, ſpeaking on the ſame ſubject, with the cares of life, or overcaſt with the clouds of melancholy and ſorrow, or ſhaken and diſturbed with the ſtorms of injurious fortune; it muſt, like the halcyon, have fair weather to breed in. The ſoul muſt be filled with bright and beautiful ideas, when it undertakes to communicate delight to others, which is the principal end of all poeſy. One may ſee through the ſtile of *Ovid de Triſt.* the humble and dejected condition of ſpirit with which he wrote it; there ſcarce remain any footſteps of that genius,

Quem nec Jovis ira, nec ignes, &c.

The cold of the country had penetrated all his faculties, and benumbed the very feet of his verſes. He is himſelf, methinks, like one of the ſtories of his own Metamorphoſes; and though there remain ſome weak reſemblance of Ovid at Rome, it is but, as he ſays of Niobe,

Ir vultu color eſt ſine ſanguine, lumina mœſtis
Stant immota genis; nihil eſt in imagine vivum,
Flet tamen.——

The truth is, for a man to write well, it is neceſſary to be in a good humour; nei-

neither is wit leſs eclipſed with the inquietneſs of the mind, than beauty with the indiſpoſition of the body; ſo that it is almoſt as difficult a thing to be a Poet in ſpite of fortune as it is in ſpite of nature. Upon the whole, one may ſafely pronounce, that the qualifications of a Poet are the peculiar gifts of heaven, and promoted and embelliſhed by a happy concurrence of events. Poetry is not the province of art; and I think what Valerius Maximus has affirmed concerning virtue, may, with equal, or better reaſon, be applied to general maxims and rules in Poetry.—*Quid enim doctrina proficit? Ut politiora, non ut meliora fiant ingenia; quoniam quidem ſola virtus naſcitur magis quam fingitur.—Some of theſe maxims may poſſibly ſerve to poliſh a genius, but cannot make it better than nature made it*; as a rough diamond is not heightened in value, but only prepared to be ſet in view by the hand of the lapidary.

I intended to have ſaid a few words here on the utility of Poetry, but as this paper already exceeds my original deſign, I ſhall only mention the third Ode of the fourth Book of Horace, to ſhew the enthuſiaſtic notions that writer had of the efficacy of genius and nature in Poetry, and how fruitleſs he judged all other aids to be without them.

The commendation given by Scaliger to this Ode, is ſo extraordinary, that it is known almoſt to every body, viz. *That he had rather have been the writer of it than King of Aragon.* The following is a tranſlation of it by a Poet that flouriſhed ſome years ago.

HOR. ODE III. Lib. iv.

Whom thou, O daughter, chaſte of Jove,
Didſt, at his birth, with eyes of love
Behold; in Iſthmian games, nor he
Fam'd for the wreſtler's wreath ſhall be,
Nor his lateſt lineage grace,
By conquering in the chariot-race:
Nor him the toils to warriors known,
A laurell'd chief! ſhall lead along;
But fruitful Tibur's winding floods,
And the ſilent gloomy woods,
To render famous ſhall conſpire,
For the poem of the lyre.
Imperial Rome, the nurſe of fame,
Kindly does enroll my name
Among the Poets charming choir,
And envy now abates her ire.
Goddeſs! who the notes doſt ſwell
So ſweetly on my golden ſhell;
Who canſt give, if ſuch thy choice,
To fiſhes mute the cygnet's voice,
'Tis to thee I wholly owe
Whiſpers flying where I go,
That to the preſſing throng I'm ſhow'd,
Inventor of the Roman Ode!

Monſ. Dacier has ſome very pretty obſervations on this Ode, and with them I ſhall beg leave to conclude this paper. "Horace," ſays he, "in this poem, thanks the Muſes for the favourable or propitious eye which they caſt upon him in the hour of his nativity; he acknowledges, it was at that firſt inſtant of his being that he received from them whatever diſtinguiſhes him; and by this acknowledgment he very evidently ſhews he was perſuaded, that no man can be a Poet, unleſs he received at his birth from heaven, by ſome happy influence or impreſſion, that ſpirit of Poetry which art and ſtudy can never give." The celebrated Sir William Temple takes a ſtep yet further, and aſſerts concerning learning in the groſs, that "the leaſt grain of wit one is born with, is worth all the improvements one can afterwards make by ſtudy." This would be eminently true, applied to Poetry; and tho' it ought, perhaps, to be received in a qualified ſenſe, in regard of learning in general, yet it is certain, that a great part of what goes by that name conſiſts in ſuch things "as a wiſe man," to uſe Seneca's words, "if he knew them would labour to forget."

Z.

THE STUDY OF POLITE LITERATURE DEFENDED.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

"AMIDST the variety of human conditions, there is none which can boaſt advantages, unconnected with diſadvantages. Theſe, on the contrary, will ſeldom be found unalleviated, if we ſet aſide the unnatural ſituations of deſpotiſm on the one hand, and of ſlavery and oppreſſion on the other. The ſtate of ſavages, their gradual progreſs in civilization, I forbear mentioning. I

will not be neceſſary to refute thoſe who delight in declaiming on the felicity of barbariſm, if it be conſidered with what difficulty ſavages provide for their ſuſtenance, what ceaſeleſs hoſtility they exerciſe againſt each other, and what languor clouds, and frequently ſhortens their monotonous lives.

"Taught to depend no longer for ſubſiſtence on the deſtruction of animals, or on the ſpontaneous productions of the earth, but obliged to cultivate the ground, mankind fixed on a determinate ſpot, though not without danger of being expelled by invaders more powerful than themſelves. Such a ſituation the dawn of ſociety preſents to our view: but how gloomy is yet the proſpect! Turning our eyes from ſtates deſtroyed in their infancy; from nations, either long ſince buried in their ruins, or ſtill groaning under oppreſſion, let us, excluding circumſtances merely caſual, and attending to general cauſes, contemplate ſome of thoſe people who have paſſed through all the ſeveral ſtages from barbariſm to refinement.

"After the means of ſubſiſtence are provided, the next deſire of man is for perſonal liberty. Diſdaining the bonds, which prevent mankind from employing their faculties for the promotion of their happineſs, liberty does not deſiſt from her claims, till all unneceſſary reſtraints are removed. Property once ſecured, produces inequality of circumſtances; inequality affording a ſcope to man's natural propenſity to eaſe, engenders luxury, a ſubject productive of much contention among philoſophers and politicians.

"This natural progreſs of ſociety, is frequently retarded or accelerated by accidental cauſes. Theſe cauſes exhibit a people ſtruggling under internal or foreign reſtraint, regaining loſt freedom, again ſinking under ſuperior force, until at length human nature becomes impatient of bondage, and every thing recovers its ſtated courſe. Amidſt theſe different ſituations, national manners, depending on the different degrees of civilization, will undergo material changes. At firſt, rude and barbarous, then ſimple and unpoliſhed, afterwards enlightened, laſtly arriving at the higheſt pitch of politeneſs, mankind become prudent in their conduct, delicate in their converſation, and refined in their ſentiments.

"From this ordinary progreſs, there will, however, be deviations. A people exerting all their force to defend or enlarge their territory, diſplay actions wonderful, laudable, and frequently honoured with the name of heroiſm. But this enthuſiaſm ſoon ſubſides. At other times happy or untoward circumſtances have an extraordinary effect. To ſuch a degree of corruption the morals of men may arrive, the human mind may become ſo debaſed and effeminate, ſo willing to ſubmit to the moſt yoke which ſhall be impoſed, as to allow deſpotiſm to annihilate every idea of public virtue.

"Hence it appears, that the changes, which take place in ſociety, are of two kinds: either proceeding from accidental cauſes, or inevitably derived from the very nature of civil communities.

"If the former be productive of greater inconveniencies than advantages, they may properly be arraigned as requiring redreſs. The latter, no wiſe man will cenſure, nor attempt to place barriers againſt the uniform and irreſiſtible courſe of nature. Thoſe countries which poſſeſs the largeſt ſhare of freedom and ſecurity, the ſage will conſider as the moſt happy; as the leaſt imperfect, that ſyſtem of laws which impoſes the ſmalleſt conſtraint upon the human paſſions. Without dwelling on defects and inconveniences which flow from the very ſource of virtue, he is perſuaded, that, in all ages, mankind, bearing a ſtrong reſemblance to each other, are ever actuated by the ſame motives: ambition, envy, and ſelf intereſt. The predominance of certain virtues or vices, occaſions a diverſity of manners. The moſt eſtimable virtues, however, reſult from that ſtate of ſociety, in which mankind have obtained the valuable right of ſeeking happineſs without injuring each other, and have ſecured this important right by eſtabliſhed laws.

"Theſe obſervations are ſufficient to diſprove the anſwer to the cenſure, which has

has been thrown on modern times and modern manners.

"If we have clearer ideas of the rights of human nature, of the origin and aim of ſociety; if already influencing the conduct of ſovereigns, and the laws of nations, theſe ideas procure a more tranquil enjoyment of advantages natural or acquired: ſurely we have no reaſon to look back with an eye of envy on former times. If more humane and reaſonable, more benevolent and ſocial, our manners flow from the natural progreſs of civil ſociety; then is every complaint againſt them as unfounded as it is inſignificant. We are evidently, therefore, advanced to that degree of civilization, at which it was expedient that we ſhould arrive; nor could its attendant inconveniencies be removed, without introducing ſtill greater evils. How little the ancient ſtates are calculated to become examples to the modern, has already been demonſtrated.

"Having thus endeavoured to anſwer objections, by which this ſubject has been obſcured, I may now be permitted to inveſtigate the nature of polite literature, and its peculiar influence upon ſociety. This perhaps ought to have been my firſt object. But prejudice oppoſed by truth, reſembles a citadel, aſſaulted by a ſuperior force: when its outworks, the principal ſtrength, are once broken down, its entire deſtruction is eaſily accompliſhed.

"The firſt idea, ſuggeſted by the Belles Lettres, demonſtrates them to be rather the conſequence than the cauſe of the manners of mankind. By civil ſociety, the mind muſt be prepared to receive their impreſſions. Inachus, Cecrops, and Danaus, preceded Amphion, Linus, and Orpheus, who alſo, it is ſaid, ſpoke only to the ear. Before Homer could addreſs the fancy, what further progreſs muſt not ſociety have made! Elegant learning depends on the degree of civilization, no leſs for its gradual advancement, than for its firſt riſe. Tho' ſince the revival of letters, the valuable remains of the ancients engage the attention of modern nations, their taſte is formed eſſentially by internal cauſes. The character of the people, for whom an author writes, muſt be ſtudied by him, if he wiſhes to ſeize the heart. The prevailing ſentiments of a nation have a conſiderable influence upon individuals. Hence the connections obſerved between the genius of a people and their taſte. That every material change in the civilization, manners, and ſentiments of mankind, has had a proportionate influence on their taſte and literature, I ſhall endeavour to evince. Uncommon flights of genius muſt, however, be excepted, which ſoaring beyond the bounds of the preſent age, contribute to form the taſte of poſterity.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST NEWS-PAPER.

JULY 9, 1662, a very extraordinary queſtion aroſe, about preventing the publication of the debates of the Iriſh parliament in an Engliſh news-paper called *The Intelligencer*; and a letter was written from the Speaker to Sir Edward Nicholas, the Engliſh ſecretary of ſtate, to prevent theſe publications in thoſe Diurnals, as they called them. The *London Gazette* commenced Nov. 7, 1665. It was at firſt called the *Oxford Gazette*, from its being printed there during a ſeſſion of parliament held there on account of the laſt plague. Antecedent to this period, Sir R. l'Eſtrange publiſhed the firſt daily news-paper in England.

From the following paſſage in Tacitus, it appears that ſomewhat like news-papers were circulated in the Roman ſtate: "Diurna populi Romani, per provincias, pef exercitus, curatius leguntur: quam ut non noſcatur, quid Thraſea, fecerit."

In a note of Mr. Murphy's excellent tranſlation of Tacitus he laments that none of theſe Diurnals, or news-papers, as he calls them, had been preſerved, as they would caſt great light upon the private life and manners of the Romans.

With the Long Parliament originated appeals to the people, by accounts of their proceedings. Theſe appeared periodically,

riodically, from the first of them, called "Diurnal Occurrences of Parliament," Nov. 3. 1641, to the Restoration.

These were somewhat like our Magazines, and they were generally called "Mercuries;" as *Mercurius Politicus*, *Mercurius Rusticus*; and one of them, in 1644, appears under the odd title of "*Mercurius Fumigosus*, or the Smoking Nocturnal."

The number of these publications appears, from a list in an accurate, new, and valuable piece of biography, from 1641 to 1660, to have been 156.

These publications of parliamentary proceedings were interdicted after the Restoration, as appears from a debate in Grey's Collection, March 24, 1681; in consequence of which, the Votes of the House of Commons were first printed by authority of parliament.

From the first regular paper, the abovementioned *Public Intelligencer*, commencing Aug. 31, 1661, there were, to 1688, with the *Gazette*, which has continued regularly, as at present, from Nov. 7, 1665, 70 papers, some of a short, and others of a longer duration.

The first daily paper, after the Revolution, was called "The Orange Intelligencer;" and thence to 1692 there were 26 news-papers.

From an advertisement in a weekly paper called "The Athenian Gazette," Feb. 8, 1696, it appears, that the Coffee-houses in London had then, exclusive of the Votes of Parliament, nine newspapers every week; but there seems not to have been in 1696 one daily paper.

In the reign of Queen Anne, there were, in 1709, 18 weekly papers published; of which, however, only one was a daily paper, *The London Courant*.

In the reign of George I. in 1724, there were published three daily, six weekly, and ten evening papers, three times a-week.

In the late reign there were published of news-papers in London, and in all England,

in	1753	7,411,757
	1760	9,464,790
the present reign in	1790	14,035,639
	1791	14,794,153
	1792	15,005,760

In 1792 there were published in London 13 daily, 20 evening, and 9 weekly papers. In the country 70; and in Scotland 14 country papers.

Though Venice produced the first Gazette in 1536, it was circulated in manuscript long after the invention of printing, to the close of the 16th century, as appears from a collection of these Gazettes in the Magliabechian Library at Florence, according to Mr. Chalmers, in his curious and entertaining Life of Ruddiman, p. 114.

Mr. Chalmers observes, that it may gratify our national pride to be told that we owe to the wisdom of Elizabeth, and the prudence of Burleigh, the circulation of the first genuine news-paper. "The English Mercurie," printed during the time of the Spanish armada. The first number, preserved still in the British Museum, is marked 50; it is dated the 23d of July, 1588, and contains the following curious article:

"Yesterday the Scotch Ambassador had a private audience of her Majesty, and delivered a letter from the King his master, containing the most cordial assurances of adhering to her Majesty's interests, and to those of the Protestant Religion; and the young King said to her Majesty's Minister at his court, that all the favour he expected from the Spaniards was, the courtesy of Polyphemus to Ulysses, that he should be devoured the last."

These publications were however then, and long after, published in the shape of small pamphlets; and so they were called in a tract of one Burton, in 1614: "If any one read now-a-days, it is a playbook or a pamphlet of newes," for so the word was originally spelled.

From 1588 to 1622, and during the pacific reign of James the First, few of these publications appeared; but the thirty years war, and the victories of the great King Gustavus Adolphus, having excited the curiosity of our countrymen, a weekly paper, called "The Newes of the present Week," was printed by Nathaniel Butter, in 1622, which was continued afterwards in 1626, under another

other title, by Mercurius Britannicus; and they were ſucceeded by the German Intelligencer in 1630, and the Swediſh Intelligencer in 1631; which laſt was compiled by William Watts, of Caius College, who was a learned man, and who thus gratified the public curioſity with the exploits of the Swediſh hero, in a quarto pamphlet.

The great rebellion in 1641 was productive of abundance of thoſe periodical tracts above-mentioned, as well as of all thoſe that have been publiſhed ſince the firſt news-paper that appeared in the preſent form, the Public Intelligencer, publiſhed by Sir Roger L'Eſtrange, Aug. 31, 1661.

Mr. Chalmers ſubjoins to theſe curious reſearches the account of the firſt paper printed in Scotland, in February 1699, the Edinburgh Gazette, which was accompanied afterwards, in 1705, by the Edinburgh Courant; and, at the period of the Union, Scotland had only three news-papers.

The publication of the Caledonian Mercury, by Ruddiman, April 28, 1720, led this curious and entertaining biographer to this minute and laborious inveſtigation; from which it appears, that England had, in 1792, 35 town and 70 country papers; Scotland, 14 news-papers, publiſhed at Edinburgh and in the country.

Lord Mountmorris's Hiſt. of the Iriſh Parl.

GENIUS, CUSTOMS, &c. OF THE WESTERN HEBRIDEANS.

BOTH men and women are fond of tobacco; the men commonly chew it, and beg a little from every gentleman; and there is no travelling through thoſe countries without a certain quantity of that article in company. The gentlemen fill their noſtrils with long quids of it, and theſe, when thrown away, are gathered carefully by the poorer ſort, for a ſecond turn. Inſtances can be produced, where a ſervant has conſumed his whole yearly wages on this ſingle article of luxury.

In paſſing to and from the iſlands, tobacco is neceſſary for a gentleman, if he wiſhes to avoid both delay and impoſition. Here it deſerves to be remarked, that though the gentlemen do ſqueeze ſub-tenants themſelves, yet they do not diſcourage, nay, ſome of the baſer kind of maſters encourage the poor oppreſſed creatures to make heavy charges on ſtrangers; and I could produce inſtances where complaints were juſtly lodged againſt impoſition. To prevent thoſe groſs charges, any knowing man will deal his tobacco liberally, and in that event, he is ſure of a ſpeedy and very cheap paſſage, or convoy, through the different iſles.

The men keep their tobacco in leather bags made of ſeals ſkins, called ſpleuchans, which keep the tobacco ſoft and taſtely.

The old women make uſe of their tobacco in ſnuff made into graddan, the ſame with the Iriſh blackguard, which they generally keep in ſea nuts that grow on the large tangles or red ſea-ware, and which are ſometimes found upon the ſhores. This nut is about ſeven inches in circumference, and one half inch thick, full of kernel, which is carefully digged out through a ſmall round hole made on purpoſe. Out of this hole the ſnuff is ſhaken on the palms of their hands, or taken out with a pen made for the purpoſe. Theſe ſhells, or nuts, are very precious, and by the richer people are bound in ſilver. There are ſeveral other kinds of ſea nuts, of different makes, that are held in high veneration among the vulgar for their ſuppoſed efficacy on ſeveral occaſions, and they are particularly uſed about children.

The common, as well as better ſort of people, court ſweet-hearts at nights, over all this country. The unlocked doors yield thoſe lovers but too eaſy acceſs to their favourites. The natural conſequences of their rencounters often occaſion ſquabbles in kirk courts, in which the miniſter and elders take cognizance of the fornication committed in the pariſh.

This inquiſitorial office is generally more agreeable to the elders, than to the miniſters; as they are the more ignorant and inſignificant, and conſequently require more the prop of other people's failings. In caſes, however, in which the

the miniſters are governed either by a druidical rigour of temper, or by hypocriſy, they too exerciſe great ſeverity againſt the incontinent, in various parts of Scotland; as the reader will find in the ingenious Captain Newte's Tour. This ſeverity, however, is not often productive of the amendment pretended to be deſigned. I ſay pretended, for in many inſtances they, who are at leaſt ſhrewdly ſuſpected of lewdneſs, as well as intemperance themſelves, are the ſevereſt and moſt curious and prying inquiſitors into the failings of others.

In the part of the country we are deſcribing, however, this frailty ſtill prevails with the favourite fair, and her intercourſe is frequently with ſo many men, that the unfortunate girl is often at a nonplus where to fix with certainty; but ſhe ſeldom fails to give up the gentlemen, or ſingle man, to ſave the married man and herſelf from the ſhame of doing penance in a white ſheet. The rich man, indeed, finds a ſubſtitute, by giving a little bribe, and a great many fine promiſes, both to the woman and the oſtenſible father. As the poor young men cannot pay for ſubſtitutes, the contending parties muſt ſubmit the iſſue of their cauſe to an oath: and the affidavit of the ſuſpected ſatisfies the accuſer, and the baſtard is as much eſteemed as the lawfully begotten child.

The woman, if ſhe is pregnant by a gentleman, is by no means looked down upon, but is provided in a huſband with greater eclat than without forming ſuch a connection. Inſtead of being deſpiſed, numberleſs inſtances can be produced, where pregnant women have been diſputed for, and even fought for, by the different ſuitors.

Their daily implements of fiſhing are the rod, and the *taubh*, or net. This laſt is a pock-net, bound round a large circular ring of wands or hoops, and that tied to the end of a long pole of eight feet in length. By throwing a little boiled wilks, chewed out of their mouths, over the top of it, when ſunk below the ſurface, the cuddies will get in after the meat, and when they are on the bottom, the upper part is elevated above the ſea, and ſome hundreds are catched, at times, at each dipping.

Inſtead of iron crooks they [illegible] of four feet long, full of holes, with [illegible] pin to paſs through, to raiſe or lower the pots when placed above their fires. The pots are ſuſpended from the roof [illegible] middle of the houſe, by [illegible] of bents grais. They make [illegible] coarſe crockery ware, for boiling [illegible] and dreſſing victuals.

They make very neat wooden [illegible] both for their doors and [illegible] are made of the ſame materials [illegible] have ſeen pieces of wooden [illegible] ſuch as trunks, cheſts, and [illegible] ſo well made, and elegantly [illegible] would not diſgrace the moſt capital [illegible] tiſts.

Galic is the common language over [illegible] this country: but their intercourſe with [illegible] fishers and paſſengers to and from other countries, introduce a mixture of words from the Engliſh and other nations. This mixture will gradually ſpoil that nervous expreſſive tongue.

The poor are totally deſtitute of letters. All the laudable and charitable contributions ſent for inſtructing them in the knowledge of the Scriptures, have been wantonly perverted by artful, deſigning politicians; as will appear when we ſpeak of the religious inſtitutions eſtabliſhed by law*.

The men are extremely fond of ſpirituous liquors, when they can fall in with them. When they can meet with a caſk, they ſeldom part with it, till it is emptied. The quarrels ariſing from drunkenneſs are more general than the combats of Engliſhmen; and more hurtful, as the victors do not ſpare the proſtrate enemy.

In Lewis, the iſlands of Harris, and the Uiſts, they make whiſky of oats, but not of barley. They have alſo abundance of rum, brandy, gin, and wines, which are ſmuggled into the country; but the charges made in retailing of theſe ſpirits become ſo extravagant, that the

* This obſervation, we can aſſure our readers, does not now apply, that charity being at preſent managed with much care and attention.

poor people c[illegible]
certain ſolemn[illegible]
have recourſe[illegible]
Had Mr. Pen[illegible]
ed a few hour[illegible]
have found th[illegible]
to the comma[illegible]
never ſaw or [illegible]
materials as he[illegible]
ſpirits in any [illegible]
is made uſe of[illegible]
and their ſpiri[illegible]
allowed to be[illegible]
adulterated liq[illegible]

The lower [illegible]
ſelves much [illegible]
the rich. Co[illegible]
the time that[illegible]
gave ſuck to[illegible]
whence they [illegible]
ed, or fotter[illegible]
uſed by all th[illegible]
child whoſe [illegible]
great man's c[illegible]
is no leſs uſe[illegible]
poor man;[illegible]
countenances[illegible]
will think him[illegible]
the flocks, an[illegible]
ſo that this t[illegible]
procally uſefu[illegible]
tions.

Moſt of th[illegible]
none in ſea-fa[illegible]
they are train[illegible]
boats, with n[illegible]
of the childr[illegible]
with ſailing i[illegible]
but when the[illegible]
and fails, the[illegible]
ſeldom retu[illegible]
when ſcarce[illegible]
loſe ſight of[illegible]
night. Wh[illegible]
they are ex[illegible]
great plenty[illegible]
the proper [illegible]
afforded to [illegible]
ſoon becom[illegible]

But their[illegible]
unnatural c[illegible]
to work lik[illegible]
whip ſmack[illegible]

poor people cannot eaſily touch any. On certain ſolemn occaſions, however, they have recourſe to thoſe foreign ſpirits. Had Mr. Pennant, at thoſe times, paſſed a few hours among them, he would have found they are not quite confined to the common beverage of whiſky. I never ſaw or heard of the heath, or ſuch materials as he mentions, uſed in diſtilling ſpirits in any of thoſe iſlands. Nothing is made uſe of but pure malt unmixed; and their ſpirits are, on theſe accounts, allowed to be ſuperior in quality to any adulterated liquors elſewhere.

The lower order of people value themſelves much on their connections with the rich. Connections often ariſe from the time that a mother, wife, or ſiſter, gave ſuck to the gentleman's child; whence they call them *coalds*. co-foſtered, or fotterlings. This appellation is uſed by all the family, as well as by the child whoſe mother's milk ſuckled the great man's child. This familiar epithet is no leſs uſeful to the rich than to the poor man; becauſe, if the rich man countenances the poor, the laſt. in return, will think himſelf intereſted in protecting the flocks, and other effects of the rich; ſo that this tie of friendſhip being reciprocally uſeful, is continued for generations.

Moſt of thoſe people are inferior to none in ſea-faring. From their infancy they are trained to it. Making of ſmall boats, with maſts, is the common paſtime of the children; and they are delighted with ſailing in boats when very young; but when they are able to handle the oars and ſails, they are truly active; and they ſeldom return home without fiſh, even when ſcarce on the coaſt. They never loſe ſight of their object either by day or night. Whether foul or fair weather, they are exerciſed when the fiſh is in great plenty, and if they had ſalt, with the proper implements for thoſe purpoſes afforded to others, their ſuperiority would ſoon become conſpicuous on that element.

But their genius is forced to run in an unnatural channel, by tying them down to work like ſo many negroes, with the whip ſmacking along their backs. They never will become dexterous at farming, that line of life being contrary to the natural bent of their inclinations.

The tenants repair to the hills all ſummer with their cattle, and live in ſhealings; that is. in huts, made in the hills for the ſummer reſidence of thoſe who tend the flocks and herds. There the families live moſtly on milk, butter, and cheeſe, and fiſh; and by the time they return to their farms, the graſs about their corn fields becomes excellent, and makes the cows yield plenty of milk. This is the caſe where the tenantry live comfortably under the protection of the proprietors, as they do in Lewis, and in ſome inſtances in the two Uiſts; but cannot be ſo much ſo in Harris, becauſe all the horſes from the different iſlands are ſent to the king's foreſt. where they devour moſt of the graſs belonging to the back-ſettlers. who border on this foreſt; inſomuch. that thoſe people, in addition to their grievances, muſt bear with this alſo; and their own corn. as well as graſs, is frequently deſtroyed by numbers of hungry horſes This is an intolerable grievance to thoſe unlucky men; that they are often ſtript of the fruits of their labours, without redreſs.

The poor tenants obſerve the holidays about Chriſtmas, and keep them very chearfully. Some of the humane tackſmen give them treats on one or more of thoſe days, and ſend for a muſician to make their ſub-tenants happy. But the more modern incumbents drop thoſe expenſive feaſts, and their tenants may faſt while thoſe of others are feaſting Notwithſtanding all the ill uſage that ſome of thoſe people ſuffer, they bring their maſters the firſt fruits of their own potatoes and meal from time to time, and ſupply their tables alſo with ſuch fiſh as they can catch for their own families, beyond the rigorous extortions made upon them by paction. They take every method they can to ſooth thoſe tyrannical people. in order to alleviate their own burthens by their engaging manner towards their maſters.

By the Rev. John Lane Buchanan.

ACCOUNT OF THE STATE OF THE BODY AND MIND, IN OLD AGE.

From the Second Volume of Medical Inquiries and Obſervations.

MOST of the facts which I ſhall deliver upon this ſubject are the reſult of obſervations made during the laſt five years, upon perſons of both ſexes, who have paſſed the eightieth year of their lives. I intended to have given a detail of their names, manner of life, occupations, and other circumſtances of each of them; but, upon a review of my notes, I found ſo great a tameneſs in the hiſtory of moſt of them, that I deſpaired, by detailing them, of anſwering the intention which I have propoſed in the following eſſay. I ſhall, therefore, only deliver the facts and principles which are the reſult of inquiries and obſervations I have made upon this ſubject.

I. I ſhall mention the circumſtances which favour the attainment of longevity.

II. I ſhall mention the phenomena of body and mind which attend it. And,

III. I ſhall enumerate its peculiar diſeaſes, and the remedies which are moſt proper to remove or moderate them.

The circumſtances which favour longevity are,

1. *Deſcent from Long-lived Anceſtors.*

I have not found a ſingle inſtance of a perſon, who has lived to be eighty years old, in whom this was not the caſe. In ſome inſtances, I found the deſcent was only from one, but, in general, it was from both parents. The knowledge of this fact may ſerve, not only to aſſiſt in calculating what are called the chances of lives, but it may be made uſeful to a phyſician. He may learn from it to cherith hopes of his patients in chronic, and in ſome acute diſeaſes, in proportion to the capacity of life they have derived from their anceſtors.

2. *Temperance in Eating and Drinking.*

To this remark I found ſeveral exceptions:—I met with one of eighty-four years of age, who had been intemperate in eating; and four or five perſons who had been intemperate in drinking ardent ſpirits. They had all been day-labourers, or had deferred drinking until they began to feel the languors of old age. I did not meet one who had not, for the laſt forty or fifty years of their lives, uſed tea, coffee, and bread and butter, twice a-day, as part of their diet.

I am diſpoſed to believe, that thoſe articles of diet do not materially affect the duration of human life, although they evidently impair the ſtrength of the ſyſtem. The duration of life does not appear to depend ſo much upon the ſtrength of the body, or upon the quantity of its excitability, as upon exact accommodation of ſtimuli to each of them. A watch-ſpring will laſt as long as an anchor, provided the forces which are capable of deſtroying both are in an exact ratio to their ſtrength.

The uſe of tea and coffee in diet ſeems to be happily ſuited to the change which has taken place in the human body, by ſedentary occupation; by which means leſs nouriſhment and ſtimulus are required than formerly to ſupport animal life.

3. *The Moderate Uſe of the Underſtanding.*

It has long been an eſtabliſhed truth, that literary men (other circumſtances being equal) are longer lived than other people. But it is not neceſſary that the underſtanding ſhould be employed upon philoſophical ſubjects, to produce this influence upon human life.

Buſineſs, politics, and religion, which are the objects of attention of men of all claſſes, impart a vigour to the underſtanding, which, by being conveyed to every part of the body, tends to produce health and long life.

4. *Equanimity of Temper.*

The violent and irregular action of the paſſions tends to wear away the ſprings of life.

Perſons who live upon annuities in Europe, have been obſerved to be longer lived, in equal circumſtances, than other people. This is probably occaſioned,

ſioned by their being exempted, by the certainty of their ſubſiſtence, from thoſe fears of want which ſo frequently diſtract the minds, and thereby weaken the bodies of all people.

Life-rents have been ſuppoſed to have the ſame influence in prolonging life. Perhaps the deſire of life, in order to enjoy, for as long as poſſible, that property which cannot be enjoyed a ſecond time by a child or relation, may be another cauſe of the longevity of perſons who live upon certain incomes.

It is a fact, that the deſire of life is a very powerful ſtimulus in prolonging it, eſpecially when that deſire is ſupported by hope. This is obvious to phyſicians every day. Deſpair of recovery is the beginning of death in all diſeaſes.

But obvious and reaſonable as the effects of equanimity of temper are upon human life, there are ſome exceptions in favour of paſſionate men and women having attained to a great age. The morbid ſtimulus of anger, in theſe caſes, was probably obviated by leſs degrees, or leſs active exerciſes of the underſtanding, or by the defect or weakneſs of ſome of the other ſtimuli which kept up the motions of life.

5. *Matrimony.*

In the courſe of my inquiries, I met with only one perſon beyond eighty years of age who had never been married. I met with ſeveral women who had born from ten to twenty children, and ſuckled them all: I met with one woman, a native of Herefordſhire in England, who is now in the hundredth year of her age, who bore a child at ſixty, and frequently ſuckled two of her children (though born in ſucceſſion to each other) at the ſame time. She had paſſed the greateſt part of her life over a waſhing tub.

6. I have not found ſedentary employments to prevent long life, where they are not accompanied by intemperance in eating or drinking. This obſervation is not confined to literary men, nor to women only, in whom longevity, without much exerciſe of body, has been frequently obſerved. I met with one inſtance of a weaver, a ſecond of a ſilverſmith, and a third of a ſhoemaker, among the number of old people, whoſe hiſtories have ſuggeſted theſe obſervations.

7. I have not found that acute, nor that all chronic diſeaſes ſhorten life. Dr. Franklin had two ſucceſſive vomicas on his lungs before he was forty years of age. I met with one man beyond eighty who had ſurvived a moſt violent attack of the yellow fever; a ſecond who had ſeveral of his bones fractured by falls, and in frays; and many who had frequently been affected by intermittents. I met with one man of eighty ſix, who had all his life been ſubject to ſyncope; another who had been for fifty years occaſionally affected by cough; and two inſtances of men who had been affected for forty years with obſtinate head-aches. I met with only one perſon beyond eighty who had ever been affected by a diſorder in the ſtomach; and in him it aroſe from occaſional rupture. Mr. John Strangeways Hatton, of Philadelphia, who died in the hundredth year of his age, informed me, that he had never puked in his life. This circumſtance is the more remarkable, as he paſſed ſeveral years at ſea when a young man. Theſe facts may ſerve to extend our ideas of the importance of a healthful ſtate of the ſtomach in the animal œconomy, and thereby to add to our knowledge in the prognoſis of diſeaſes, and in the chances of human life.

8. I have not found the loſs of teeth to affect the duration of human life, ſo much as might be expected. Edward Drinker, who lived to be 103 years old, loſt his teeth thirty years before he died, from drawing the hot ſmoke of tobacco into his mouth through a ſhort pipe.

9. I have not obſerved baldneſs, or grey hairs, occurring in early or middle life to prevent old age. In one of the hiſtories furniſhed me by Le Sayre, I find an account of a man of eighty, whoſe hair began to aſſume a ſilver colour when he was only eleven years of age.

By Dr. Ruſh, Philadelphia.

A FAIRY TALE.

THERE was a country-woman, who upon her intimacy with a Fairy, desired her to come and assist at her labour. The good woman was delivered of a daughter, when the Fairy (taking the infant in her arms) said to the mother, "Make your choice, the child, if you have a mind, shall be exquisitely handsome; excel in wit, even more in beauty, and be queen of a mighty empire, but, withal, unhappy: Or, if you had rather, she shall be an ordinary, ugly, country creature, like yourself; but contented with her condition." The mother immediately chose wit and beauty for her daughter, at the hazard of any misfortunes.

As the child grew, new beauties opened daily in her face, till, in a few years, she surpassed all the rural lasses that the oldest people had ever seen. Her turn of wit was gentle, polite, and insinuating: she was of a ready apprehension, and soon learned every thing so as to excel her teachers. Every holiday she danced upon the green, with a superior grace to any of her companions. Her voice was sweeter than any shepherds pipe; and she made the songs she used to sing.

For some time, she was not apprized of her own charms: when, diverting herself with her play-fellows upon the green flowery border of a fountain, she was surprised with the reflection of her face; she observed how different her features and her complexion seemed from the rest of her company, and admired herself. The country, flocking from day to day to obtain a sight of her, made her yet more sensible of her beauty. Her mother, who relied on the predictions of the Fairy, began already to treat her as a queen; and spoiled her by flatteries. The young damsel would neither sow, nor spin, nor look after the sheep: her whole amusement was to gather flowers, to dress her hair with them; to sing, and to dance in the shade.

The king of the country was a very powerful king; and he had but one son, whose name was Florio; for which reason his father was impatient to have him married. The young prince could never hear the mentioning any of the princesses of the neighbouring nations; because a Fairy had told him, that he should find a shepherdess more beautiful and more accomplished than all the princesses in the world. Therefore the king gave orders to assemble all the village-nymphs of his realm, who were under the age of eighteen, to make a choice of her who should appear most worthy of so great an honour. In pursuance of the order, when they came to be viewed, a vast number of virgins, whose beauty was not very extraordinary, were refused admittance, and only thirty picked out, who infinitely surpassed all the others. These thirty virgins were ranged in a great hall, in the figure of a half moon; that the king and his son might have a distinct view of them together. Almira, our young damsel, appeared, in the midst of her competitors, like a lily amongst marigolds; or as an orange-tree in blossom shews amongst the mountain shrubs. The king immediately declared aloud, that she deserved his crown; and Florio thought himself happy in the possession of Almira.

Our shepherdess was instantly desired to cast off her country weeds, and to accept a habit richly embroidered with gold. In a few minutes she saw herself covered with pearls and diamonds; and a troop of ladies was appointed to serve her. Every one was attentive to prevent her desires, before she spoke; and she was lodged within the palace, in a magnificent apartment; where, instead of tapestry there were large pannels of looking-glass, from the floor to the cieling, that she might have the pleasure of seeing her beauty multiplied on all sides, and that the prince might admire her wherever he cast his eyes. Florio, in a few days quitted the chace, and all the manly exercises, in which before he delighted, that he might be perpetually with his mistress. The nuptials were concluded; and, soon after, the old king died. Thereupon Almira becoming queen, all the councils and the affairs of state were directed by her wisdom.

The queen-mother whose name was Invidessa, grew jealous of her daughter-in-law. She was an artful, perverse, cruel woman; and age had so much aggravated her

her natural deformity, that she seemed a fury. The youth and beauty of Almira made her appear yet more frightful; she could not bear the sight of so fine a creature: she likewise dreaded her wit and understanding, and gave herself up to all the rage of envy. "You want the soul of a prince," would she often say to her son, "or you could not have married this mean cottager. How can you be so abject, as to make an idol of her? Then she is as haughty, as if she had been born in the palace where she lives. You should have followed the example of the king your father: when he thought of taking a wife, he preferred me, because I was the daughter of a monarch equal to himself. Send away this insignificant shepherdess to her hamlet, and take to your bed and throne some young princess, whose birth is answerable to your own."

Florio continued deaf to the instances of his mother; but one morning Invidessa got a billet into her hands, which Almira had written to the king; this she gave to a young courtier, who, by her instructions, shewed it to the king, pretending to have received a letter from his queen, with such marks of affection as were due only to his majesty. Florio, blinded by his jealousy, and the malignant insinuations of his mother, immediately ordered Almira to be imprisoned for life, in a high tower built upon the point of a rock that stood in the sea. There she wept night and day; not knowing for what supposed crime she was so severely treated by the king, who had so passionately loved her. She was permitted to see no person but an old woman, to whom Invidessa had intrusted her, whose business it was to insult her upon all occasions.

Now Almira called to mind the village, the cottage, the sweet privacy, and the rural pleasures she had quitted. One day as she sat in a pensive posture, overwhelmed with grief, and to herself accused the folly of her mother, who chose rather to have her a beautiful unfortunate queen, than an ugly contented shepherdess; the old woman, who was her tormentor, came to acquaint her, that the king had sent an executioner to take off her head, and that she must prepare to die. Almira replied, that she was ready to receive the stroke. Accordingly, the executioner (sent by the king's order, at the persuasion of Invidessa) appeared with a drawn sabre in his hand, ready to perform his commission; when a woman stept in, who said she came from the queen-mother, to speak a word or two in private to Almira, before she was put to death. The old woman, imagining her to be one of the ladies of the court, suffered her to deliver her message: but it was the Fairy, who had foretold the misfortunes of Almira at her birth; and had now assumed the likeness of one of Invidessa's attendants.

She desired the company to retire a while; and then spoke thus to Almira in secret: "Are you willing to renounce that beauty which has proved so fatal to you? Are you willing to quit the title of queen, to put on your former habit, and to return to your village?" Almira was transported at the offer. Thereupon the Fairy applied an enchanted vizor to her face. Her features instantly became deformed; all the symmetry vanished; and she was now as disagreeable as she had been handsome. Under this change, it was not possible to know her; and she passed, without difficulty, through the company who came to see her execution. In vain did they search the tower; Almira was not to be found. The news of this escape was soon brought to the king, and to Invidessa, who commanded diligent search to be made after her, throughout the kingdom; but to no purpose.

The Fairy by this time, had restored Almira to her mother; who would never have been able to recollect her altered looks, had she not been let into the circumstances of her story. Our shepherdess was now contented to live an ugly, poor, unknown creature, in the village where she tended sheep. She frequently heard people relate and lament over her adventures: songs were made upon them, which drew tears from all eyes. She often took a pleasure in singing those songs with her companions, and would often

weep with the reſt; but ſtill ſhe thought herſelf happy with her little flock, and was never once tempted to diſcover herſelf to any of her acquaintance.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR,

AS you have requeſted my correſpondence for the SCOTS MAGAZINE, I incloſe ſome Characteriſtical Sketches of eminent Britons. I only attempt to give the leading features of their character, and if you think them worthy of publication they ſhall be continued. With my hearty wiſhes for the ſucceſs of your uſeful miſcellany, I am, &c.

CHARACTERISTICAL SKETCHES OF EMINENT BRITONS.

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

THE reign of Queen Elizabeth may be viewed as one of the chief æras of Engliſh greatneſs. Though the diſpoſition of this princeſs was even more arbitrary than that of her ſucceſſor James, yet no diſſenſions prevailed betwixt her and her people to weaken her adminiſtration.

Her government was characteriſed by vigour and œconomy; and though a female reign could hardly be ſuppoſed to want favourites, yet their aggrandiſement (a wonderful inſtance of reſolution) was never made at the expence of found policy. Her favourites, when ſhewing themſelves unworthy of ſuch diſtinction, ſhe never ſcrupled to diſcard, and even give up to juſtice; a firmneſs of mind James could never attain, which, while it leſſens our opinion of her as a woman, muſt preſerve our admiration of her as a princeſs.

JAMES VI.

THE Stuart family ſeems to have been characteriſed by two leading features; a ſtrong deſire of arbitrary power, and a want of the correſponding policy neceſſary to render it ſucceſsful. Their private weakneſſes got the better of their public characters.

James was early trained up in an opinion that he was born to govern, and in conſequence of this he firſt aſſumed the title of *Sacred Majeſty*; with a view no doubt of impreſſing his ſubjects with an idea of the inviolability of his perſon, as well as the abſoluteneſs of his power. Though poſſeſſed of theſe prejudices in a violent degree, yet his reign was far from oppreſſive. In conſequence of his erudition he acquired a ſpirit of toleration; and his attachment to epiſcopacy, was more the effect of his political prejudices, than from a conviction of its ſuperiority over other forms of religion.

The two great errors of his reign were his frequent harangues in favour of arbitrary power, and his giving himſelf up to the dominion of favourites. By the firſt he was in effect provoking a high-ſpirited people, at all times jealous of their liberties, to enter into a diſcuſſion of their rights, and which they afterwards did ſo completely in the ſucceeding reign: By the laſt he alienated the affections of a powerful nobility, the only order of the ſtate which could have any bias towards his notions of arbitrary power. His favourites, too, were generally choſen for their external accompliſhments rather than their abilities, and thus he derived no advantage to counterbalance the odium which his partiality for them produced. To ſuch a length did his blind attachment in this reſpect proceed, that though he poſſeſſed ſufficient diſcernment to ſee his errors in the choice of his favourites, he wanted reſolution to diſcard them.

CHARLES I.

THE character of Charles I. is ſuch as every hiſtorian muſt trace with equal admiration and regret; but in drawing it, he muſt ſeparate the man entirely from the prince.

Even by his greateſt enemies, Charles is allowed to have been, by far, the moſt accompliſhed gentleman of his time,—polite, generous, affable, and honourable. His reception at the court of Spain in his youth, and the conſent of that monarch to his marriage, was one of the ſtrongeſt proofs of his uncommon merit. No one

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ever gained more the eſteem of thoſe who were about his perſon; and his courtiers, ſuch was their attachment to the man, generouſly ſacrificed their own fortunes to his ſupport. In the duties of private life, he was, perhaps, unfortunately too examplary.

When, however, we reverſe this flattering picture, and examine his conduct as a prince, theſe very qualities which exalted him as a man, ſeem to have been the cauſe of his ruin. The nice principles which directed him in private life, rendered him too obſtinate in his conduct as a king; and inſtead of yielding, by a well timed policy, to the juſt demands of his ſubjects, and the critical temper of the times, he conſidered his honour and duty equally pledged to break none of his attachments, nor alienate any of his prerogatives. He was unlucky, too, in forming attachments to ſuch as poſſeſſed the ſame notions of arbitrary power with himſelf; a proof that he was not directed like his father, by caprice in his choice, but by real principle; both Stafford and Laud were men, who, in point of abilities and integrity, did honour to his judgment. His adherence alſo to epiſcopacy, a point not to be omitted in delineating the character of Charles, evidently proceeded from his thorough conviction of its divine inſtitution; and which he did not countenance as his father did, from its being connected with his own political ideas of government. Hence, in all his misfortunes, this was a point he obſtinately perſevered in, and on no account would ſacrifice it to the exigencies of his ſituation.

The peculiar caſt of Charles's features, we are told, ſtrongly indicated this ſerious temper of his mind. All the pictures of him are alike, owing to this melancholy turn of aſpect, which is often the attendant of genius and the finer feelings, and which the ſtatuary Bernini termed *unfortunate*. It was, indeed, in the period of his misfortunes, that the luſtre of Charles's character truely ſhone. No prince ever appeared to more advantage under adverſity; and even his enemies muſt allow, that if he did not act at all times as a prince, he, at leaſt, died with the dignity of one. The calmneſs of his demeanour during his trial, when compared with his conduct through life, cannot be aſcribed to mere conſtitutional fortitude; it muſt therefore be derived from a nobler ſource, the influence of religion, joined with that natural elevation of mind with which he ſeems to have been born; but which, by taking a wrong bias, was, perhaps, the cauſe of many of the errors that ſtained his government. Even his warmeſt friends muſt admit the criminality of his conduct on one hand, while his greateſt enemies muſt equally allow the ſeverity of his treatment on the other; and his own ſaying, on ſeeing the ſoldier caned by his officer for commiſerating his prince, may be applied to himſelf: "his puniſhment exceeded his offence."

It was the great misfortune of Charles the Firſt to fall early into bad hands. The aſcendency of Buckingham over him in his youth, rivetted thoſe hereditary notions of monarchy which proved ſo fatal to him in the end, and the influence of his queen ſerved to confirm them; while the ſeditious behaviour of parliament naturally ſtrengthened the diſlike of a mind firm and haughty againſt innovation. Had Charles been left to himſelf, his reign might have had a fortunate termination; but, with all his faults, he muſt ſtill be regarded as the greateſt prince of the Stuart family.

N.

[*To be Continued.*]

ACCOUNT OF MR. E. GIBBON,

AUTHOR OF THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, &c.

MR. GIBBON was born at Putney, in 1737. At an early age he was ſent to the grammar-ſchool at Kingſton, from which he was removed to Weſtminſter ſchool. On his leaving that ſeminary, he went to Lauſanne, where he ſtudied under the father of the preſent Mrs. Neckar, with whom he lived till his death on the moſt friendly terms. About 1768 he returned to England, and took poſſeſſion of his paternal eſtates. Under the adminiſtration of his friend Lord North, he was choſen a member of parliament, and appointed a lord of trade;

trade; but, upon his lordſhip's reſignation, he returned to Switzerland, where he propoſed to have ſpent the remainder of his life in ſtudy and retirement. About three years ſince, he paid a viſit to his friends in London; and, lately, gave a proof of the goodneſs of his heart in ſacrificing every conſideration, and quitting his elegant abode, ſolely to adminiſter every conſolation in his power to a friend who had loſt his lady, one of the moſt amiable women in England.

He had lately undergone the palliative operation for the hydrocele; but the immediate cauſe of his death was the gout in his ſtomach. His ſufferings were ſhort, he enjoyed his uſual flow of ſpirits, and converſed with as much gaiety as he writes, the night before his death, remarking that he thought there was a probability of his enjoying thirteen or fourteen more years of life; but he had not been long in bed before he was ſeized with excruciating pains. He endeavoured to ſwallow ſome brandy, but in vain: he then made a ſignal for his valet to leave the room, and in a few minutes expired. On the 23d ult. his remains were carried out of town to be depoſited in the mauſoleum of Lord Sheffield's family in Suſſex. Mr. Gibbon poſſeſſed uncommon ſtrength of memory, and a mind better ſtored with knowledge and anecdote, than perhaps any man of the age. His converſation was lively and entertaining in an eminent degree, and will never be forgotten by his friends.

He has left behind him, at his charming houſe at Lauſanne, a library, which is one of the beſt that was ever ſelected by an individual; and which he has given, with every thing elſe indiſcriminately to a young Swiſs gentleman, to whom he was remarkably attached.

We are informed that Mr. Gibbon, has not left any new work for publication; but we hear that among his papers ſeveral ſketches are found, in which are introduced the moſt eminent characters in Europe, and many intereſting circumſtances of the times, but in a very imperfect and unfiniſhed ſtate. It is hoped that his friend Lord Sheffield, who was ſo well acquainted with every thought of this extraordinary perſon, and with every circumſtance of his life, and is ſo capable of the work, will arrange, continue, and finiſh theſe memoirs, and gratify the public with ſo intereſting and curious an entertainment.

Mr. Gibbon was of the Literary Club, originally founded by Sir Joſhua Reynolds and Dr Johnſon, and which has now ſubſiſted for 30 years.

Of Mr. Gibbon's ſtyle, and manner of writing, it is not poſſible to ſpeak, without entering into a field far too extenſive for our limits. It is a ſubject on which much criticiſm has been ſpent, and much has been written. In general, it ſeems to be allowed, that Mr. Gibbon has been accurate both in his chronology and geography, two particulars ſo eſſential, that they have been called, emphatically, the eyes of hiſtory; his geographical deſcriptions indeed are rich and admirable, and often give life to the dry page of detail. Two faults have been found to his ſtyle: 1ſt, that it is artificial and pompous; 2dly, that it is obſcure and incorrect. The former of theſe, if true, will certainly involve the latter; and to a certain degree the Engliſh reader feels the charge. It is to be remembered, that Mr. Gibbon's ſtyle could not miſs to be invigorated by his daily intercourſe with the moſt celebrated writers of Greece and Rome; and his reſidence abroad, and his intimate acquaintance with the more refined languages of modern Europe, are mentioned as reaſons for the alledged pompoſity of his language. His obſcurity is attributed, chiefly, to his love of variety, which engages him, in order to avoid the repetition of names, to be too laviſh in *circumlocution*; and to his ſtudied attention to unvaryed elegance, that has induced him frequently to employ turns of expreſſion, which, however forcible, beautiful and harmonious, are not ſufficiently juſtified by the practice of Engliſh Claſſics. For the ſake of elevation or harmony he often rejects the common expreſſion which naturally preſents itſelf, and ſubſtitutes one leſs familiar and leſs intelligible. His doctrines and opinions have been fully refuted, upon the principles of true philoſophy and enlightened criticiſm; they are ſuch as every Chriſtian muſt treat with contempt and indignation.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Hiſtory, Civil and Commercial, of the Britiſh Colonies in the Weſt Indies. By Bryan Edwards, Eſq; *of the Iſland of Jamaica.*

AFTER our learned author has treated of the ancient ſtate of the Weſt Indies, and their original inhabitants, he proceeds to local hiſtory, and the civil concerns of Jamaica, Barbadoes, Grenada, St. Vincent's, Dominica, and the ſeveral Leeward Iſlands. This concludes the firſt volume. The ſecond volume treats at large of the manners, diſpoſitions, and genius, of the preſent inhabitants, black and white; including an hiſtorical account of Africa, ſlavery, and the ſlave-trade. The latter part of this volume relates wholly to the ſyſtem of Weſt Indian agriculture (an extenſive field, and hitherto unexplored); and the concluſion is appropriated to government and commerce.

The following delineation of the character of the enſlaved Negroes, in the 4th book, is drawn with a very maſterly hand:

"It is no eaſy matter, I confeſs, to diſcriminate thoſe circumſtances, which are the reſult of proximate cauſes, from thoſe which are the effects of national cuſtoms and early habits in ſavage life; but I am afraid that cowardice and diſſimulation have been the properties of ſlavery in all ages, and will continue to be ſo to the end of the world. It is a ſituation that neceſſarily ſuppreſſes many of the beſt affections of the human heart.—If it calls forth any latent virtues, they are thoſe of ſympathy and compaſſion towards perſons in the ſame condition of life; and accordingly we find that the Negroes in general are ſtrongly attached to their countrymen, but above all to ſuch of their companions as came in the ſame ſhip with them from Africa. This is a ſtriking circumſtance: the term *ſhip-mate* is underſtood among them as ſignifying a relationſhip of the moſt endearing nature; perhaps recalling the time when the ſufferers were cut off together from their common country and kindred, and awakening reciprocal ſympathy, from the remembrance of mutual affliction.

"But their benevolence, with a very few exceptions, extends no farther. The ſofter virtues are ſeldom found in the boſom of the enſlaved African. Give him ſufficient authority, and he becomes the moſt remorſeleſs of tyrants. Of all the degrees of wretchedneſs endured by the ſons of men, the greateſt, aſſuredly, is the miſery which is felt by thoſe who are unhappily doomed to be the ſlaves of ſlaves; a moſt unnatural relation, which ſometimes takes place in the ſugar-plantations, as, for inſtance, when it is found neceſſary to inſtruct young Negroes in certain trades or handicraft employments. In thoſe caſes it is uſual to place them in a ſort of apprenticeſhip to ſuch of the old Negroes as are competent to give them inſtruction; but the harſhneſs with which theſe people enforce their authority is extreme; and it ſerves, in ſome degree, to leſſen the indignation which a good mind neceſſarily feels at the abuſes of power by the Whites, to obſerve that the Negroes themſelves, when inveſted with command, give full play to their revengeful paſſions, and exerciſe all the wantonneſs of cruelty without reſtraint or remorſe.

"The ſame obſervation may be made concerning their conduct towards the animal creation. Their treatment of cattle under their direction is brutal beyond belief. Even the uſeful and ſocial qualities of the dog ſecure to him no kind uſage from an African maſter. Although there is ſcarce a Negro that is not attended by one, they ſeem to maintain theſe poor animals ſolely for the purpoſe of having an object whereon to exerciſe their caprice and cruelty. And, by the way, it is a ſingular circumſtance, and not the leſs true for being ſomewhat ludicrous, that the animal itſelf, when the property of a Negro, betrays at firſt ſight to whom he belongs; for, loſing his playful propenſities, he ſeems to feel the inferiority of his condition, and actually crouches before ſuch of his own ſpecies as are uſed to better company. With the

the manners, he acquires alſo the cowardly, thieviſh, and fallen diſpoſition of his African tyrant.

'But, notwithſtanding what has been related of the ſelfiſh and unrelenting temper of the enſlaved Africans, they are ſaid to be highly ſuſceptible of the paſſion of love. It has ever been ſuppoſed that they are more ſubject to, and ſenſible of its impreſſion, than the natives of colder climates. "The Negro (ſays Dr. Robertſon) glows with all the warmth of deſire natural to his climate." "The tender paſſion (ſays another writer) is the moſt ardent one in the breaſt of the enſlaved African.—It is the only ſource of his joys, and his only ſolace in affliction." Monſieur de Chanvalon (the hiſtorian of Martinico) expatiates on the ſame idea with great eloquence.—"Love, (ſays he), the child of Nature, to whom ſhe entruſts her own preſervation; whoſe progreſs no difficulties can retard, and who triumphs even in chains; that principle of life, as neceſſary to the harmony of the univerſe, as the air which we breathe, inſpires and invigorates all the thoughts and purpoſes of the Negro, and lightens the yoke of his ſlavery. No perils can abate, nor impending puniſhments reſtrain the ardour of his paſſion.—He leaves his maſter's habitation, and traverſing the wilderneſs by night, diſregarding its noxious inhabitants, ſeeks refuge from his ſorrows in the boſom of his faithful and affectionate miſtreſs."

"All this, however, is the language of poetry, and the viſions of romance. The poor Negro has no leiſure in a ſtate of ſlavery to indulge a paſſion, which, however deſcended, is nouriſhed by idleneſs. If by love is meant that tender attachment to one individual object, which, in civilized life, is deſire heightened by ſentiment, and refined by delicacy, I doubt if it ever found a place in an African boſom.—The Negroes in the Weſt Indies, both men and women, would conſider it as the greateſt exertion of tyranny, and the moſt cruel of all hardſhips, to be compelled to confine themſelves to a ſingle connexion with the other ſex; and I am perſuaded, that any attempt to reſtrain their preſent licentious and diſſolute manners, by introducing the marriage-ceremony among them, as is ſtrenuouſly recommended by many perſons in Great Britain, would be utterly impracticable to any good purpoſe. Perhaps it may be thought that the Negroes are not altogether reduced to ſo deplorable a ſtate of ſlavery as is commonly repreſented, when it is known that they boldly claim and exerciſe a right of diſpoſing of themſelves in this reſpect, according to their own will and pleaſure, without any controul from their maſter.

"That paſſion, therefore, to which (dignified by the name of love) is aſcribed the power of ſoftening all the miſeries of ſlavery, is mere animal deſire, implanted by the great Author of all things for the preſervation of the ſpecies. This the Negroes, without doubt, poſſeſs in common with the reſt of the animal creation, and they indulge it, as inclination prompts, in an almoſt promiſcuous intercourſe with the other ſex; or at leaſt in temporary connections, which they form without ceremony, and diſſolve without reluctance. When age, indeed, begins to mitigate the ardour, and leſſen the fickleneſs of youth, many of them form attachments, which, ſtrengthened by habit, and endeared by the conſciouſneſs of mutual imbecility, produce an union for life. It is not uncommon to behold a venerable couple of this ſtamp, who, tottering under the load of years, contribute to each other's comfort, with a chearful aſſiduity, which is at once amiable and affecting.

(*To be Continued.*)

Argentum; or, the Adventures of a Shilling.

THIS is the entertaining performance, probably of a young, but certainly of an ingenious writer. The idea is the ſame as that already ſucceſsfully preſented in Chryſal, or the Adventures of a Guinea; which may always be made productive of novelty of deſcription, incident, and anecdote, according to the taſte and abilities of the author; whether it be in the hiſtory of a guinea, a crown, a ſhil-

a ſhilling, a bank-note, an aſſignat, or any ſimilar article of circulation. In this volume the beſt ſtory is that of Clairville the Frenchman. The adventures of the highwayman are not ſufficiently novel; and the ſtory of the officer, at the concluſion, refuſing to be ſearched at a gaming-table, becauſe he had in his pocket the wing of a fowl preſerved with care for his needy family, is very old indeed, and has been retailed again and again.

We ſelect the following as a ſpecimen of the writer's manner and inventive powers:

"One of Hamond's ſervants having aſked his permiſſion to go over to Windſor to ſee a ſiſter who was ſettled there; he granted his requeſt, and gave the lad poor *me*, that he might ſee the play.

I was accordingly paid away at the gallery door of the Windſor play-houſe; and the next morning, which was Saturday, was given to one of the company, who was, unfortunately troubled with one of the greateſt evils that a man can labour under—it was, the perpetually carrying about with him,

'A diſcontented and repining ſpirit.'

Before I had been in his poſſeſſion a quarter of an hour, he met one of his brethren, who aſked him, in a friendly manner, 'if he was to be of their dinner-party?'

'Hey! dinner-party? why, what are you to have for your dinner?'

'Why, I don't exactly know—but there will be ſome fine roaſt veal, my boy, and an excellent bowl of punch after it.'

'Piſh! ſtaggering bob, and ſlow poiſon!—no—I ſhall be otherwiſe engaged.'

He was indeed otherwiſe engaged; for the ſame afternoon he decamped, without beat of drum, leaving the manager to procure another *Friar Lawrence* for the following Monday, or to change the play—*prò re natâ*.

The fact was, he (like many others of his profeſſion) conceived his abilities to be of a firſt-rate, when they were, in reality, ſcarcely of a ſixth rate order; and on the manager's refuſing him the part of the gay *Mercutio* (for which his age, as well as incapacity rendered him totally unfit), he took this paltry method of revenge.

Juſtice, however, (which, ſooner or later, overtakes petty raſcals as well as villains of note, indeed all thoſe

'That have within them undivulged crimes
'Unwhipp'd'—)

purſued his ſteps, and overtook him at Saliſbury.

In plain Engliſh, the manager of that theatre ſo mortified his vanity by his treatment of him, that he heartily repented his having quitted ſo abruptly the royal brow of Windſor

On his arrival at that place, ſo celebrated for its penknives and the lofty ſpire of its cathedral, he waited on the governor of the children of Theſpis, ſolicited an engagment (which was granted), and requeſted to make his firſt appearance in *Othello*, Moor of Venice.

The manager conſented. On the night appointed he made an *entrée* in a flaming ſcarlet coat, white flannel waiſtcoat, blue cotton ſtockings, cocked hat, and ramilié—but performed the character ſo little to the ſatisfaction of the audience, that, long before he announced it, they heartily wiſhed '*Othello's occupation gone!*'

The Moor himſelf, however, was well pleaſed. He thought, and with juſtice, that Barry, when living, played it *as well*; but he doubted whether he had ever played it better.

The Manager, it ſhould ſeem, was of a very different opinion; for, the next morning, the unfortunate ſtroller ſaw his name attached to the part of the ſecond murderer in *Macbeth*, in the play-bills for the next repreſentation.

Full of indignation and reſentment, he flew to the apartment of the theatrical monarch, and, without knocking at the door, burſt into the room with the abrupt queſtion,

'What, on earth, do you mean, ſir, by the groſs affront you have put upon me?'

'What affront, ſir?'

'Why, ſir, there is my name in the bills for the *ſecond murderer*.'

'A miſtake of the printer's, ſir—entirely a miſtake.'

'Oh, ſir,' quite ſoftened, 'tis very well, if that's the caſe—then pray, ſir, what character am I to perform? for I am ſure, in ſo full a piece, you muſt want my aſſiſtance.'

'What character, ſir, why the *firſt* murderer—for I am convinced you'll do it more juſtice than any man in my company.'

It was to no purpoſe that the other remonſtrated, ſtormed, vowed vengeance, with a long train of *et cæteras*: the manager was inflexible.

The actor (calling to mind that I and two of my brethren were the only friends he had left, and not looking upon ſilver with the eyes of *Baſſanio*,

'I'll none of thee, thou pale and common
'drudge,
'Unwhipp'd'—)

ſubmitted to the indignity, and retired to his lodgings, planning all the way an hundred different ſchemes of revenge.

When the night came, my owner grumbled out his ſhort part: previous to which I was witneſs to a very curious ſcene, that may poſſibly divert the reader as much as it does myſelf.

The Manager performed *Macbeth*: and in the repreſentation, when the Thane came off the ſtage to perpetrate the ſuppoſed murder of Duncan, his property-man (the account of whoſe office is ſo humorouſly treated by Addiſon, in one of the numbers of "The Guardian") had neglected to procure the neceſſary article of blood for the actor to beſmear his hands with, and juſtify the obſervation of 'this is a ſorry ſight!' When *Macbeth*, therefore, impatiently, and in a violent hurry aſked, 'Well, ſir, where's the blood?' the reply was, in a kind of heſitating trepidation, 'Sir,—I'm very ſorry—but—I've quite—forgot it.'

'You have, ſir,—well then, ſtand ſtill——there——' at that inſtant ſtriking the property-man a ſevere blow on the noſe, whence iſſued a copious ſtream; 'there—that will do—there's enough—' and immediately returned to *Lady Macbeth* with the very *à-propos* quotation,

'I've done the deed—did'ſt thou no
&c.'

In the intervening time betwixt this and the following play-night, my brethren were ſeparated.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Obſervations on the Nature of Demonſtrative Evidence; with an explanation of certain difficulties occurring in the Elements of Geometry; and Reflections on Language. By Thomas Beddoes, 8vo. 3s. 6d. boards. *Johnſon*, 1793.

A Schizzo on the Genius of Man. By the Author of an Excurſion from Paris to Fontainbleau, 8vo. 6s. boards. *Robinſons*, 1793.

The Doctrine of Univerſal Compariſon, or General Proportion. By James Glenie, Eſq; F. R. S. late Lieutenant in the corps of Engineers, 4to. 5s. boards *Robinſons*.

The Antecedental Calculus; or a Geometrical method of reaſoning, without any conſideration of motion or velocity, applicable to every purpoſe to which Fluxions have been, or can be applied. By James Glenie, Eſq; M. A. & F. R. S. 4to. 2s. 6d. *Robinſons*, 1793.

Sketches of the origin, progreſs, and effects of Muſic, with an Account of the ancient bards and minſtrels. Illuſtrated with various hiſtorical facts, intereſting anecdotes, and poetical quotations. By the Rev. Richard Haſtcott, of Exeter, 8vo. 5s. boards. *Robinſons*, 1793.

In the preface, we are told that,

'The author of the following Sketches has availed himſelf of thoſe common ſources of information which lie open to every reader. For many years he has been in the habit of mixing with muſical people, both profeſſors and amateurs, and has attended the moſt celebrated muſical feſtivals in London and other large cities: theſe opportunities furniſhed him with much information, and the reflections which naturally ſucceeded, excited in him a ſtrong deſire to ſearch into the origin, progreſs, and effects of an art, which appears to command the paſſions in an eminent degree, and to communicate ſo much delight to mankind.'

Mr. E. ſeems to be as well acquainted with the preſent ſtate of muſic, particularly in this country, as he is ſeduloufly deſirous of doing juſtice to the abilities and talents of living diſtinguiſhed profeſſors. *M. Rev.*

A Diſcourſe delivered to the Students of the Royal Academy, on the diſtribution of the prizes, December 10, 1792, by the Preſident. To which is prefixed the ſpeech of the Preſident to the Royal Academicians on the 24th of March 1792, 4to. 5s. *Cadell*, 1793.

The Literary Life of the late Thomas Pennant,

nant, Esq; By himself, 4to. 7s. 6d. boards. *White*, 1793.

Letters from France, concerning the important events that have lately occurred in that country. Volumes 3. and 4. 12mo. 6s. sewed. *Robinsons*, 1793.

A Narrative of the Transactions relative to a sermon, preached in the parish church of Brighton, August 18, 1793; with short extracts from the sermon, and occasional remarks. By Vicesimus Knox, D. D. 8vo. 1s. 6d. *Dilly*.

Eight Sermons preached before the University of Oxford, in the year 1792, at the Bampton Lecture. By John Eveleigh, D. D. 8vo. 4s. boards. *White and Son*.

Modern France. A poem. By G. Richards, M. A. Fellow of Oriel College, Oxon, 4to. 1s. *Robinsons*, 1793.

Pathetic Odes. The Duke of Richmond's dog Thunder, and the Widow's Pigs, a tale: The poor Soldier of Tilbury Fort: Ode to certain Foreign Soldiers: Ode to Eastern Tyrants: The Frogs and Jupiter, a fable: The Diamond Pin and Candle, a fable: The Sun and the Peacock, a fable. By Peter Pindar, Esq; 4to. 2s. 6d. *Walker*, 1794.

A Guide for Self-Preservation, and Parental Affection; or Plain directions for enabling people to keep themselves and their children free from several common disorders. By Thomas Beddoes, M. D. 12mo. 3d. *Murray*, 1793.

EDINBURGH.

The Clinical Guide; or a Concise View of the leading Facts *on the* History, Nature, and Cure of Diseases. To which is subjoined a practical Pharmacopœia in three parts, viz. Materia Medica, Classification, and Extemporaneous Prescription. Intended as a Memorandum-book for young practitioners, particularly the students of Medicine on their first attendance at the Hospital. By William Nisbet, M. D. Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, 12mo. 4s. 6d. *Creech, and Watson and Co.*

In a science so extensive as medicine, the value of a compend, bringing together the principal symptoms of diseases, their progress and termination, must doubtless be considerable. It is the accumulation of facts upon which we presume to found general principles; and such is the present state of Medicine, that volumes are written, and accurate relations of facts daily multiplied. To classify and arrange these, and to lay down principles of cure founded upon them, is one of the objects of the work before us. But this, though of very great importance, does not exhaust the author's plan, he also furnishes us with a judicious enumeration of the most approved prescriptions, and has added a Pharmacopœia, which makes his Guide the most complete, *Vade-mecum*, hitherto offered to the physician.

Such being the object of this work, we are ready to give it, upon the whole, our hearty approbation; it is replete with useful information, and practical directions, which appear to be grounded on experience and observation; and which will consequently be found not only useful, but even necessary to young practitioners, especially on their first attempts to relieve diseases. Attention to this small volume may not only, perhaps, keep them from a rash prescription, which might injure their reputation, and destroy their peace of mind, but may also save the life of their patient.

The Spectator,

A New Edition,

With Notes and Illustrations, &c.

Ornamented with engraved Title-pages, and heads of the Authors, &c. 8 vols. 12mo. *Fine*, 18s. *Coarse*, 16s. bound.

To this edition the Editor has prefixed a short account of the writers in this popular work. He has introduced it with the following remarks: "It may justly be asserted that no performance has been more generally useful, nor more universally esteemed than the *Spectator*. Justness and ingenuity of reflection, clearness and force of reasoning, beauty of illustration, and extensive knowledge, are the prominent features of this popular work. 'Before the Tatler and Spectator (Johnson observes) England had no masters of common life, if the writers for the theatre are excepted. No writers had yet undertaken to reform either the savageness of neglect, or the impertinence of civility; to shew when to speak, or to be silent; how to refuse, or how to comply. The Spectator teaches the minuter decencies, and inferior duties, it tends to regulate the practice of daily conversation, to correct rudeness and impertinence.' But these are but part of the objects comprehended by the Spectator: sound morality, and just and deep criticism are not a-wanting; and the most important duties, and sublime truths are there taught in a language, at once so plain and elegant, that, whilst it is understood by the ignorant, the learned and wise are charmed and instructed."

He further adds, That, "besides annexing the names of the authors to their respective papers, so far as known, he has added such notes and illustrations as he could find in former editions, in order to throw light on the text. Considerable pains has also been bestowed on the letter-press, so that it is hoped this will be found superior to any of the smaller editions hitherto published."

These additions make this the most perfect of the small editions we have seen, and certainly give it a preference.

Statistical Account of Scotland, Vols. 8, 9, and 10. 7s. each. *Creech*.

British Poets, Vol. 4. 10s. 6d. *Bell and Bradfute*.

Pleasing Variety. 3s. bound. *Watson and Co.*

STATE

STATE PAPERS.

Substance *of the new Poliſh Conſtitution, decreed by the Diet.*

Article I. The kingdom of Poland, and grand dutchy of Lithuania, with the remainder of the dutchies, waywodeſhips, countries, and diſtricts, of which they now conſiſt, being, according to their rights and privileges, an individual whole, ſhall conſtitute forthwith an indiviſible free and independent republic, whoſe ſupreme power ſhall be veſted in the Diet. The latter, having conſtantly the king at its head, ſhall conſiſt of the ſenators and the repreſentatives of the nobility; and if thus aſſembled in this lawful manner, it ſhall have the ſole power of making laws, and the nation ſhall only be bound to obey ſuch laws as the Diet hath enacted. The Diet alone can impoſe taxes, and ſupport therewith an army which muſt be faithful; it can alone declare war, make peace, and conclude all kinds of treaties, eſtabliſh and direct colleges or offices of ſtate, fix their duration, chuſe their members, ſend ambaſſadors, &c. &c. In ſhort, no ordinances ſhall be executed in the territories of the republic, which have not been derived from the ſtates in Diet aſſembled. The legiſlative power ſhall for ever remain ſeperated from the executive power. The Diet can therefore accompliſh the execution of all its decrees by the magiſtrates only. No part of the executive power ſhall order any thing, or act beyond what has been ordained by the laws.

Art. II. The property of the feudal right ſhall never be annihilated, and the ſovereignty of the republic over the feoffee, ſhall conſtantly continue.

Art. III. The Roman Catholic religion of both rituals ſhall be the conſtant predominant one in Poland.

Art. IV. The ſeceſſion from the Roman Catholic religion to ſome other religion, ſhall ever be a crime in Poland; and he that ſhall be convicted thereof, is to be baniſhed the kingdom; at the ſame time the conſtitution of 1775, with regard to Proteſtants, ſhall be obſerved.

Art. V. The king and queen of Poland muſt be Roman Catholics. Should the queen be of a different perſuaſion, and not abjure the ſame, ſhe cannot be crowned.

Art. VI. The grand dutchy of Lithuania ſhall for ever remain united with Poland, in which reſpect the rights of the Union, and other particular rights of that province, ſhall be preſerved.

Art. VII. The incorporation of Courland with Crown-Poland and the grand dutchy of Lithuania, made in 1569, beſides all other conſtitutions with regard to that dukedom, as likewiſe of the diſtrict of Pilthen, ſhall be preſerved inviolate.

Art. VIII. It ſhall be permitted to no branch of the public power, not even to the legiſlative branch, to exchange or cede any poſſeſſion of the republic. Treaties of that kind are not only declared void, but every one who ſhall propoſe them, is to be declared and puniſhed as a traitor to his country.

N. B. The ſucceſſion to the throne, according to the new conſtitution, is henceforth to be accompliſhed by the choice of the ſtates.

Note *by Lord Robert Fitzgerald, to the Swiſs Cantons.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

The underſigned miniſter plenipotentiary of his Britannic Majeſty thinks himſelf bound to expreſs to you, the great indignation which he has felt at the new outrage committed againſt your excellencies, by thoſe vile and ferocious men aſſembled at Paris under the name of *The Convention*. Not having been able to corrupt your brave troops in the ſervice of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and deſpairing to make them accomplices in their robberies, theſe factious men have diſarmed, plundered, and murdered them. Europe will never forget the noble ſacrifice of ſo many generous Swiſs who died in defending Louis XVI.; it will never forget the cruelties which thoſe cannibals made them ſuffer! Stained with the blood of your brothers, and of a virtuous king, your friend and ally, and of his auguſt

auguſt ſpouſe, and of an infinite number of innocent victims—authors of a moſt terrible war, which they undertook with the hopes of extending their tyranny over all Europe, at the moment when they have reached the laſt point of atrocity and madneſs, when they multiply more than even their victims, and butcher one another, they have had the hardineſs to call themſelves your ally; they have not bluſhed to mention your treaty with the ſovereign whom they brought to the ſcaffold; they have ſhewn a deſire to ſtrengthen their connection with you. Objects of univerſal execration, they have had the impudence, High and Mighty Lords, to make for you alone, of all Europe, this diſgraceful exception! What connection can ſubſiſt between the freedom of the Swiſs, and that horrible anarchy to which they have proſtituted its name? What common tie can there be between a people, good, virtuous, religious, and the friends of morals and juſtice, and atheiſts, enemies of God and man, thirſting for blood and pillage? whoſe crimes for theſe five years paſt have exceeded a thouſand times the crimes of former ages! You know, High and Mighty Lords, that in their efforts to propagate their infamous doctrines beyond the limits of France, they have not reſpected your happy country. You can never forget the intrigues of their emiſſaries to deſtroy all reſpect for your laws! Nobody can believe, that theſe promoters of diſcord and anarchy, in attacking every principle of civilization in Europe, have any intention of preſerving them in your ſtates; or that they have renounced the project of exciting internal diſſentions in them, when an opportunity offers. The ravages which they have exerciſed in the Low Countries, in Savoy, and the biſhopric of Bale, and wherever they have penetrated, under the name of *The Friends of the People*, prove ſufficiently what may be expected from their teſtimonies of friendſhip! There cannot ſubſiſt a durable peace between the wiſe councils of the Helvetic States and ſuch plunderers.—What then is the end of their perfidious careſſes? They wiſh to conceal the dangers which threaten you; they have the hopes, no doubt chimerical, of corrupting your citizens, in diminiſhing the horrors with which they inſpire them to be able at a future period to ſurprize you amidſt a fatal ſecurity.

The miniſter of his Britannic Majeſty will not decide, whether juſtice, and the true intereſt of a ſtate, permit it to remain neuter, againſt thoſe who would again reduce it to barbariſm, in a war of almoſt all the powers of Europe—in a war where not only the exiſtence of every eſtabliſhed government, but even that of all kind of property, is at ſtake. He will only obſerve, that neutrality itſelf will not authorize any correſpondence, directly or indirectly, with the factious or their agents. When two legitimate powers are at war, the connection of a ſtate with either of them cannot injure their reſpective rights; but the preſent war being carried on againſt uſurpers, any correſpondence with them by a neutral ſtate would be an acknowledgment of their authority, and conſequently an act prejudicial to the allied powers.

His Britannic Majeſty has too high an opinion of your wiſdom, High and Mighty Lords, not to believe that you will deſpiſe the inſinuations of the common enemy of all people, and that you will redouble your zeal and vigilance to avert from your country all thoſe plagues which at once overwhelm the unhappy people of France!—At all times, and on every occaſion, his Majeſty will not ceaſe to give you proofs of his friendſhip, and to intereſt himſelf in the maintenance of the independence, and of the ancient proſperity of your ſtates, and of thoſe of your allies. (Signed)

R. S. FITZGERALD.

Berne, Nov. 30, 1793.

ANSWER *of the Swiſs Republic.*

"YOUR excellency, in a letter dated the 30th of November, thought proper to recommend to the ſerious conſideration of the Helvetic body, ſome important obſervations on the relative ſituation of the republic to the belligerent powers.

"Theſe obſervations we have examined with all that care and attention which

which is due to the intereſts of our country, and we think that we afford your excellency a proof of the eſteem which we entertain for your character, by making an open and ſincere expoſition of our ſituation and our conduct.

"However afflicting the remembrance of thoſe terrible events in France, (which your excellency has brought to our recollection), and the ſad fate of our brethren who ſuffered ſo unfortunately, may be, yet our grief muſt nevertheleſs yield to the principles of our conſtitution; theſe principles have reſted for ſeveral centuries on the relations of peace, amity, and good neighbourhood with all the ſurrounding powers.

"The operation of theſe principles has never been interrupted by foreign wars. A rigid and exact neutrality was the invariable maxim of our anceſtors, and having received it as a ſacred inheritance, we have conceived it to be our duty to abide by it in the preſent war. And this conduct has produced a ſalutary influence, not only on our external ſafety, but on our internal peace.

"Accuſtomed to obſerve ſcrupulouſly all engagements entered into, we will neither wander from our declared neutrality, on any pretence whatever, nor will we liſten to any inſinuation which might give riſe to juſt complaints.

"It is for us to preſerve the employment of that happy and peaceful ſituation to which all our moſt zealous efforts tend. We will unite our force to repel even the ſlighteſt attempts that may be made to diſturb our repoſe, or to undermine the foundation of it by any deſtructive principles.

"It is towards this end that our foreſight is directed, by carefully guarding our frontiers, and by endeavouring to prevent any difficulties by a correſpondence inſeparable from our local relations.

"We intreat your excellency to aſſure his Britannic Majeſty of the invariable determination of the Helvetic body; and it is with entire confidence we expect, from his good-will, that, following the example of his illuſtrious anceſtors, who at all times have maintained the independence of the Helvetic confederacy, he will continue henceforth to entertain a ſincere affection for our proſperity and our repoſe. We are, &c."

PRESERVATIVE AGAINST HYDROPHOBIA.

BY DR. DE MONETA.

Phyſician to his Poliſh Majeſty.

THE doctor firſt adviſes to cover the wound with freſh earth, or with ſnuff, to imbibe the ſaliva of the animal, and then to waſh it with water. At the ſame time, warm half a pound of butter in four times as much vinegar; and when the wound is cleared, apply a compreſs of linen, ſteeped in that mixture, and moiſten it very often with the ſame for nine days: after which time you may ſafely remove the compreſs, and cure the wound in the uſual way. During the time that the vinegar is uſed outwardly, the patient muſt take it internally, four times a day, in doſes of an ounce and a half of vinegar, warmed, with a little butter; and his common drink, for at leaſt fifteen days, muſt be pure water with a little vinegar or juice of citron. Any ſtrong liquor is extremely hurtful, as is any emotion of anger or impatience. Plethoric patients may be blooded; but this precaution the author regards as little neceſſary. Dr. de Moneta has uſed the ſame remedy againſt the bites of vipers and other venomous reptiles, and always with ſucceſs. He has prevented the hydrophobia in more than ſixty people; and many other phyſicians, who have followed his method, have found it equally efficacious. It is remarkable that, in Italy, vinegar has alſo been lately diſcovered to be a remedy for this dreadful diſorder.

We may further add, that in the third volume of the Memoires of the Medical Society of London, there are ſeveral cures of hydrophobia related, to which the uſe of oil evidently contributed. It was applied in frequent frictions, and alſo internally, being introduced both by the mouth and in clyſters, mixed with mutton broth.

POETRY.

POETRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

ELEGY.

WRITTEN IN THE COUNTRY.

I ASK no more of Fortune's envied ſtore,
Than what the wants of ſimple life ſupplies;
Let others roam to India's diſtant ſhore,
And wealth acquiring, loſe Contentment's prize.

Be mine, in yonder vale's ſequeſter'd ſeat,
Far from the buſy ſcenes of active care,
To mark the fleeting moment's calm retreat,
And where I drew, reſign my vital air.

For why ſhould man, ſhort tenant of a day,
In vain purſuit of trifles idly toil?
To each contending paſſion's burſt a prey,
The ſport of Fortune and her fickle ſmile.

Sure the ſhort ſpan to niggard life aſſign'd,
Heaven ne'er could mean for pleaſure's feſtive round;
Nor that fell paſſion ſhould deform the mind,
Or wild ambition leap o'er Reaſon's bound.

Elſe why was Reaſon's guard on man beſtow'd?
If not to curb each tumult of the ſoul;
To point the certain path that leads to good,
And rein the wiſhes erring from its goal.

Yes! 'neath thy guide, O Reaſon, friendly pow'r,
I trace the ills of paſſion's ceaſeleſs ſtrife:
Touch'd at their view, I hug the quiet ſhore,
And leave thoſe ſcenes that rouſe the gales of life.

TO FANCY.

BY T. PRATT.

FANCY! thou ſoft'ring nurſe of fond deſire,
Who ſooth'ſt the maiden's fears, the lover's fire,
Aided by thee! ſee Terror lifts his head,
And leaves the dreary manſions of the dead;
In ſhapes more various mocks at human care,
Than ere the fabled Proteus us'd to wear;
Now in the lonely way, each traveller's dread,
He ſtalks a giant ſhape without a head:
How in the haunted houſe, his dread domain,
The curtain draws, and ſhakes the clinking chain;
Hence fabled ghoſts ariſe, and ſpectres dire,
Theme of each evening tale by winter's fire.
Chief o'er the ſex he rules with tyrant's ſway,
When vapours ſeize them, or vain fears betray;
With groans of diſtant friends affrights the ear,
Or ſits a phantom in the vacant chair;
Now in wild dreams the anxious mother moves,
Or bids fond virgins mourn their abſent loves.
Sylvia in vain her wearied eyes would cloſe,
Hark the ſad death-watch clicks—adieu repoſe!
The aſſtant owl, or yelling maſtiff near,
Terror ſtill vibrates on the liſtening ear,
And bids the affrighted Sylvia vigils keep,
For Fancy, like Macbeth, has murder'd ſleep.

PARODIES OF SHAKESPEARE.

BETWEEN the cloſing of the laſt old year,
And entrance of the preſent, th' interim is
Like to the turning over a new leaf:
Pocket account-books, remembrancers, dairies,
Are all got ready, and the waſteful ſpendthriſt,
Like to a man at penance, utters then
Vows and reſolves of ſtrict œconomy.

Between the wooing of a lovely laſs,
And the glad nuptials, all th' interim's ſpent
In gifts, "bracelets of hair, rings, gauds, con-
"ceits,
"Knacks, trifles, noſegays, verſes of feign'd
"love,"
And all is flattery, like a pleaſant dream:
Bonds, jointures, mortgages, eſtates, are then
Laid before counſel; and the ſighing ſwain,
Sick of the forms of dull attorneyſhip,
Suffers the fears of ling'ring diſappointment.

Between the exit of departing gueſts,
And their firſt motion, all the interim is
A fretful waiting for the tedious chaiſe:
The parties and their preparations
Are then in great ſuſpenſe; the awkward hoſt,
Forc'd to find talk, ſuſtains their ſtay
With ill-diſſembling compliment.

Between the winning of a ſerious rubber,
And the odd trick at nine, all the interim is
Cloſe as a pointer, huſh as dead of night,
The genius and the recollection
Are then in council; and th' experienc'd play'r,
Like one that treads on ice, fears ev'ry round,
His partner's next wrong card will loſe the game.

Between the op'ning of the overture,
And gath'ring of the band, th' interim is
Like hum of bees before a ſwarm; th' organ
Sounds the key-note; the well-tun'd inſtruments
Tune and re-tune: 'till the whole orcheſtra,
Ready, like ranks of armed ſoldiers, watch
The bow and motion of the firſt fiddle,
To ſtrike off all at once.

Between the acting of a firſt night's play,
And prologue ſpoken, the ſhort interim is
Like an alarm, or beating up to arms;
Pit, boxes, galleries, critics, friends, foes,
Muſicians, actors, prompter, ſcene-men, all
Are then in ferment; and the pale author,
Like to a guilty creature at the bar,
Suffers the dread forebodings of his murder.

Between the election of a rotten borough,
And the firſt canvaſs, all the interim is
Like a black ant-hill ſtirr'd, or Bedlam loos'd:
Favours, treats, promiſes, bribes, threats, mobs, riots,
Are all in uſe as rival inſtruments
For votes and intereſt: and each petty ale-houſe,
Like to a little hell, becomes one place
Of uproar, fighting, and equality.

STANZAS TO MY VALENTINE.

BY MRS. ROBINSON.

COME Hope, and sweep the trembling string;
Drop from thy pinions, balm divine;
While, drooping o'er my Lyre, I sing
The graces of my Valentine.

Ah! graces, fatal to my peace,
Why round my heart your mischiefs twine?
Say, barbarous Love, can aught increase
The Triumphs of my Valentine.

No more about my auburn hair
The sparkling gems shall proudly vie;
The cypress, emblem of despair,
Shall there, a faded chaplet die.

Young dimpled Pleasure quits my breast,
To seek some gaudier bow'r than mine,
Where low caprice, by fancy drest,
Enthrals my truant Valentine.

The frozen brook, the mountain snow,
The pearls that on the thistle shine,
The northern winds which chilly blow,
Are emblems of my Valentine.

Pale Sorrow shades the quiv'ring flame,
That gleams on Truth's neglected shrine,
Fann'd by those sighs which still proclaim,
How much I love thee, Valentine!

Whene'er the icy hand of Death
Shall grasp this sensate frame of mine,
On my cold lip the fleeting breath
Shall murmur forth—Dear Valentine!

Then o'er my grave, ah! drop one tear,
And sighing write this pensive line—
"A faithful heart lies mouldering here,
"That well deserv'd its Valentine.

THE COQUETTE.

BY DR. HOULTON.

CORINNA, aged forty-five,
Did not of marriage yet despair,
Tho' she her charms had kept alive
A dozen years, by art and care:

Full oft she many a gen'rous youth
Had trick'd and treated with disdain,
But now she wish'd, in earnest truth,
To add a link to Hymen's chain.

To Strephon, then, who day and night,
Did heretofore sincerely woo,
She condescended thus to write:
"You've conquer'd, Sir, I yield to you."

Strephon, whose mind sweet peace possess'd,
Who long had ceas'd to love and sigh,
Gave quick for answer, thus address'd,
"Read it, Corinna, and apply.

"The rising sun I've oft admir'd,
Till pleasure has to rapture grown;
His noontide beams my breast have fir'd,
With glowing bliss to words unknown.

"But Sol, so bright, at eve declines,
When all men see his course is run,
With ruddy face still, still he shines,
But ah! his heat and beams are gone."

She read—she paus'd;—Reflection's glass,
Quick as the forked lightning's dart,
Show'd her with painted haggard face—
O sad conviction to her heart!

No more at balls or routs she's seen,
No more each borrow'd art she tries;
A victim now to hips and spleen,
All day she hides, all night she sighs.

Then let not slip, ye lovely fair!
Youth's prime, and beauty's blissful date;
To gen'rous lovers be sincere,
Lest ye should meet Corinna's fate.

ODE ON THE MORNING.

BY G. DYER, B. A.

CHILD of the light, fair morning hour,
Who smilest o'er yon purple hill!
I come to woo thy cheering pow'r
Beside this murm'ring rill.
Nor I alone—a thousand songsters rise
To meet thy dawning, and thy sweets to share,
While ev'ry flow'r that scents the honied air,
Thy milder influence feels, and sheds its brightest dies.

And let me hear some village swain
Whistle in rustic glee along;
Or hear some true-love's gentle pain
Breath'd from the milkmaid's song.
Wild are those notes, but sweeter far to me
Than the soft airs born from Italian groves:
To which the wanton muse and naked loves
Strike the wild lyre, and dance in gamesome glee.

And rosy Health, for whom so long
'Mid sleepless nights I've sigh'd in vain,
Shall throw her airy vestment on,
And meet me on the plain.
Gay laughing nymph, that loves a morning sky;
That loves to trip across the spangled dews:
And with her finger dipt in brightest hues,
My faint cheek shall she tinge, and cheer my languid eye.

Then will I taste the morn's sweet hour,
And, singing, bless the new-born day;
Or, wandering in Amanda's bow'r,
Rifle the sweets of May:
And to my song Amanda shall attend,
And take the posie from the sylvan's muse;
For sure the virtuous fair will not refuse
The muse's modest gifts, her tribute to a friend.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

EAST INDIES.

Government hath received the agreeable intelligence from Sir Charles Oakley, governor of Madraſs, that the arrangements made, on hearing of the declaration of war againſt France, for reducing their ſettlements in that quarter, had been crowned with complete ſucceſs. Their important fortreſs of Pondicherry ſurrendered to Col. Brathwaite, on the 23d of Auguſt laſt, as likewiſe all their ſettlements on the Bengal and Malabar coaſts.

The following is the ſubſtance of theſe diſpatches:

LONDON GAZETTE, *Jan.* 25.

SIR, *Fort St. George, Aug.* 24. 1793.

I have the pleaſure to inform you that the fort of Pondicherry ſurrendered to our army, under the command of Colonel Brathwaite, on the 23d inſtant.

In conſequence of intelligence received here on the 1ſt of June, from Mr. Baldwin, that war had been declared by France againſt England and Holland, we ordered the army to aſſemble near Pondicherry, and having prepared and forwarded all the neceſſary equipments for the ſiege of that fortreſs, our operations commenced early in the preſent month, and have thus happily terminated. Permit me, on this occaſion, to offer you my warmeſt congratulations, and to expreſs a well-grounded hope, that ſo important a conqueſt will afford complete ſecurity to our poſſeſſions in India. The French ſettlements in Bengal, and on the Malabar coaſt, have all likewiſe ſurrendered to the Britiſh arms.

Our meaſures, on the receipt of Mr. Baldwin's intelligence, were honoured by the fulleſt approbation of the Governor-general in Council. Marquis Cornwallis determined to take the firſt opportunity of coming himſelf to the Coaſt; and, as no frigate could be ſpared to convey him, he requeſted the Triton Indiaman might be ſent for that purpoſe. She ſailed from Bengal on the 31ſt of laſt month, and I expect her return in a few days.

CHA. OAKLEY.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas.

To the Hon. Sir Charles Oakley, Bart. Governor in Council.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Capt. Brathwaite, my aid-de-camp, will have the honour to deliver this to you; it incloſes copies of my correſpondence with Monſ. de Chermont, and a copy of the terms which humanity alone induced me to grant to the French garriſon, who, in many inſtances, behaved very ill; but it ſeems they were under little or no controul of their officers, who were hourly in apprehenſion for their own lives: And this day I was greatly alarmed by repeated information that ſome of them had ſurrounded the governor's houſe, and menaced his life, and preſſing me to puſh forward the troops, which was accordingly done; and I had the pleaſure to learn, that though matters had for ſome time worn a diſagreeable appearance, they had never had recourſe to their arms, or any act of violence; they were moſtly drunk, and ſtraggling about in various directions, but without arms; however, they have been moſtly collected, and will, before night, be perfectly ſecured in the church of Aria Coupang.

I have alſo the honour to incloſe a copy of the orders I iſſued this day, and to remain, with reſpect, &c.

JOHN BRATHWAITE.

Camp on the Red Hills, Aug. 23. 1793.

P S. Admiral Cornwallis did me the honour to dine with me this day, and I ſhall tomorrow ſend to him a duplicate of the capitulation for his ſignature, if he pleaſes to ſign it, and ſhall get one in exchange from Monſ. Chermont alſo for the admiral.

Follows the correſpondence between Gen. Brathwaite and the Governor of Pondicherry:

To Gen. Brathwaite, commanding in chief the Engliſh army.

SIR,

Humanity, and the intereſts of this colony, have engaged me to propoſe a capitulation; I aſk, in conſequence, four and twenty hours to reduce it to form, during which time you will eſtabliſh, as well as me, a perfect ſuſpenſion of arms, and ceaſe to continue your works againſt the place, as I ſhall ceaſe to continue mine in its defence.

CHERMONT.

Pondicherry, Aug. 22, 1793.

To M. Chermont, Governor of Pondicherry, &c.

SIR,

Humanity, and the real intereſt of the city of Pondicherry, induced me to offer you the moſt honourable and humane terms on my appearing before this place with ſuch a ſuperiority of force as entitled me to ſay, that humanity alone induced me to make thoſe offers.

You, Sir, contrary to the dictates of humanity, and the real intereſts of the colony under your command, rejected thoſe terms, and without any probability of defence, continued to fire upon my people, to do as much miſchief as you could; and now that my batteries are opened, you begin to think of humanity, that is, for your own people, for you have indicated none to thoſe under my command; bu

thank God! they are not in a ſituation to require it. Matters being thus circumſtanced, I will give you till to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, to ſurrender at diſcretion, and truſt to the known humanity and generoſity of the Engliſh nation. Till then I will ceaſe to fire, unleſs fired upon, but I will not ceaſe to work; and if a ſhot is fired from you before the ſurrender of the place, all further application will be unneceſſary. If the place is ſurrendered, the whole may depend upon ſecurity to their lives, and that liberal treatment which the Engliſh nation always ſhows to its priſoners: In ſhort, they ſhall be treated as priſoners of war ſurrendering themſelves into the hands of a brave and honourable people. Preciſely at eight o'clock to-morrow morning I ſhall begin to fire, with no intention of ceaſing, till I am eſtabliſhed in the full poſſeſſion of Pondicherry. You have once, Sir, refuſed a fair and honourable offer; this is the ſecond, and I believe a third is never made. I have the honour, &c. JOHN BRATHWAITE.

Camp before Pondicherry, Aug. 22, 1793.

To General Brathwaite.

SIR,

The cruel ſituation in which myſelf and a number of brave men have found themſelves, and which I believe was known to you, has forced us to the conduct we have held. I ſend you an officer of merit whom I beſeech you to hear. I hope he will be able to obtain from you a capitulation, and the twenty-four hours I have aſked. CHERMONT.

Pondicherry, Aug. 22, 1793.

To M. Chermont, Governor of Pondicherry, &c.

I have ſaid in my letter to Monſ. Chermont, that in ſurrendering at diſcretion, he might confide in the humanity and generoſity of a brave nation; but as he deſires aſſurances, to quiet the minds of ſuch as are alarmed at the idea of ſurrendering at diſcretion,

I. I promiſe, that if the place, with all public property, ſtores, ammunition, arms, ordinance, treaſure, and proviſions, is faithfully delivered up, all private property belonging to individuals ſhall be ſaved and inviolable: It being underſtood that arms, warlike or naval ſtores, though in the hands of private merchants, muſt be conſidered as public property, and faithfully delivered up as ſuch.

II. The place muſt be ſurrendered to the troops that I ſhall ſend to take poſſeſſion, as ſoon as they appear at the Madras and Vellenour gates. The Engliſh troops, and the native troops in the Britiſh ſervice, ſhall behave with good order and diſcipline: The French troops muſt do the ſame.

III. The garriſon muſt lodge their arms in the arſenal, and march out without arms or colours. They will be conſidered as priſoners of war, and treated humanely as ſuch. They ſhall be marched to Aria Coupang, (the native troops excepted who ſhall have liberty to go where they pleaſe) and lodged and fed there, till tents, &c. can be prepared to ſend them to Madras, and I pledge myſelf they ſhall be ſent to Europe by the firſt opportunity.

IV. With regard to the officers, they ſhall wear their ſwords, and be priſoners on their paroles of honour, reſerving their private properties.

V. Hoſtages, two officers of rank, muſt be ſent to me before nine o'clock to-morrow morning, for the faithful acquieſcence to theſe terms: And on the arrival of theſe hoſtages, I will ſend troops to take poſſeſſion of the place, and to eſcort the French ſoldiers to Aria Coupang.

VI. Rigour would juſtify me, under preſent circumſtances, in inſiſting upon harſher terms; but humanity induces me to ſpare perſons and private property; and the inhabitants remaining in Pondicherry, provided they demean themſelves with due obedience to our government and laws, ſhall be treated and conſidered as inhabitants under the protection of the Britiſh government.

VII. This is final. If not acceded to by the arrival of the hoſtages, I ſhall re-commence hoſtilities at nine o'clock preciſely.

Given under my hand, ſolely for the preſent, in the abſence of Admiral Cornwallis. Camp before Pondicherry, Auguſt 23. three A. M.

JOHN BRATHWAITE.

To General Brathwaite.

SIR,

I have the honour to ſend you, as preſcribed, the capitulation which you offer me, and which is accepted, as alſo the Lieut.-Cols. Gautier and Joſſet.

You may, at nine o'clock, take poſſeſſion of the Vellenour and Madras gates. I have given orders to the troops to be ready at that hour to ſurrender themſelves at Aria Coupang.

You will find here a ſigned copy of the capitulation.

Pondicherry, Aug. 23, 1793. CHERMONT.

Head Quarters, Camp before Pondicherry Auguſt 23, 1793.

GENERAL ORDERS BY COLONEL BRATHWAITE.

Colonel Brathwaite has the honour and happineſs to announce to the gallant army under his command the news of the ſurrender of Pondicherry, on terms dictated by himſelf; terms which, he flatters himſelf, muſt ever remain as a memorial to the French nation, that no ſuperiority of fire, no advantage of circumſtances, no miſconduct of an enemy, will cauſe a Britiſh commander to deviate from that humanity, which is the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtic of a brave nation.

He has ſpared the whole garriſon and the properties of individuals, which the rigid law of

of arms would have juſtified him in treating otherwiſe. He has ſpared an enemy that continued to act offenſively and deſtructively while unmoleſted, but who ſunk under the firſt impreſſions of his ſuperior force. Actuated by the ſame ſentiments, he has no doubt but that the whole of the army under his command will conſider their infatuated and unfortunate priſoners entitled (being now their priſoners) to their moſt humane attention.

It is not neceſſary for him, at this time of the day, to give to this ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed army, any orders on that head; the generals under whom they have ſerved have taught them, that an enemy conquered, is an enemy no more; and he is convinced that the Britiſh troops, about to garriſon Pondicherry as conquerors, or about to take the charge of French priſoners, will convince both the inhabitants and their priſoners, that they can be as orderly, generous, and humane, in the diſcharge of theſe duties, as they have been active and brave in the duties of the trenches.

To a chearful, unanimous, and zealous perſeverance, in their ſeveral duties, and to their eſtabliſhed character for bravery, muſt be attributed the ſucceſs of the preſent day, and their commander will ever remember it with pleaſure and gratitude.

To thank corps or individuals in an army, ſo wholly entitled to his warmeſt thanks and approbation, cannot be attempted. He thanks and approves the whole with all his heart, and will not fail to ſpeak theſe his ſentiments of them to his ſuperiors.

FEBRUARY 5.

This day's Gazette contains duplicate of a letter from Marquis Cornwallis to the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, dated 16th Sept. ſtating, that, upon receipt of the intelligence of a war with France, all the ſmall factories belonging to the French on the continent of India, as well as their ſhips in our ports, were taken poſſeſſion of; and that the government of Fort St. George proceeded immediately to make preparations for the attack of the important fortreſs of Pondicherry; which place was in full as good a ſtate of defence as when it was attacked at the breaking out of the laſt war.

His Lordſhip alſo gives an account of the operations in India, which is nearly the ſame with the foregoing. Nothing material had happened ſince the date of Governor Oakley's correſpondence.

The return of the ſtores, &c. taken in Pondicherry is given, with the liſts of killed and wounded during the ſiege.

Of *Europeans*—Lieut. Col. Maule, chief engineer, Capt. Galpine 73d Regt. Lieut. Lane 52d. Lieut. M Grigor 73d. Lieut. Cawthorne 2d native battalion, Enſign Fod 73d. 1 ſergeant, 30 rank and file *killed*.—2 lieutenants, 2 ſerjeants, 46 rank and file *wounded*.—1 rank and file miſſing.—Total 88.

Natives—1 Jemedar, 2 drummers, 53 rank and file *killed*.—2 Jemedars, 1 havildar, 95 rank and file *wounded*—5 rank and file miſſing.—Total 195.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

January 4. The repreſentatives of the people at Rhennes informed the Convention, that at St. Maloes, and along the coaſt, under the inſpection of the Generals Tureau, Roſſignol, and Sorbes, every diſpoſition was made, to be prepared for the threatened deſcent from the Engliſh and Emigrants. The republicans became acquainted with their ſignals, repeated them, but to no purpoſe; ready to deſtroy them on their landing, drown them in the ſea, or burn their fleet with red-hot bullets. The triumphs of the conquerors of Toulon was celebrated. The banditti of La Vendee are diſperſed. The guillotine is ridding the earth of thoſe miſcreants.

7. On complaints being made that the miniſter of war expended enormous ſums, by drawing at pleaſure from the national treaſury; it was decreed, that no miniſter in future ſhall draw money, unleſs authoriſed by a decree of the Convention.

The committee of public welfare were charged to watch over the activity of the national force, and prevent its being ſlackened.

Conſiderable debates took place upon charges of treaſon and miſconduct being brought againſt Generals Rouſin and Roſſignol, for the part they acted in the war of La Vendee. Theſe were interrupted by a motion, That General Weſtermann, who was preſent in the war, and now at the bar of the Convention, be heard. 'I come, citizens, repreſentatives, ſaid the general, to preſent unto you ſome remains of the ſacerdotal ſpoils of the biſhop of Agra, famous for the part he acted in the catholic army. I come alſo to aſſure you, that of that army, once 90,000 ſtrong, not one combatant remains. Chiefs, officers, ſoldiers, biſhops, princeſſes, counteſſes, have all periſhed by the ſword, by fire, by the waves.'

The Convention ordered to be printed the

the report of the miniſter for foreign affairs, regarding the foreign trade of France during the year 1792.

It ſtated, that before the revolution, the balance in favour of France was between 60 and 70 millions; by what magic then, continued the miniſter, find we this balance, in 1792, increaſed to 224 millions. Barrere complained, that notwithſtanding of the liberal and patriotic gifts made for the uſe of the Republic, that the ſoldiers were in want of many neceſſaries; he recommended it to the Convention, that they ſhould be ſupplied with theſe in the ſpring.

9. Numbers of letters were read, filled with congratulations on the late victories gained by the arms of the republic.

The Convention were informed, by their commiſſioners Tureau and Prieur with the army of the weſt, of the attack and reduction of the iſles of Bouin and Noirmoutier. Fifty pieces of cannon, with muſquets, ſtores, and proviſions of every kind, had fallen into their hands. Numbers of the rebels bit the duſt, the reſt threw down their arms, and victory was complete in every quarter.

It is proper, ſay the repreſentatives, that theſe places which have changed their principles, ſhould alſo change their names. We have, therefore, called iſle Bouin, *iſle Marat*; and Noirmoutier, the *iſle of the Mountain*. Applauded and decreed.

10. The Convention ordered, that, from the cheſt with three keys, there ſhould be remitted to the treaſury, the ſum of 275,264,363 livres which had been advanced for the expences of laſt month.

After hearing the report of the committee of finance, the Convention decreed that the national treaſury ſhall hold, at the diſpoſal of the central adminiſtration of benevolence of Paris, the ſum of 200,000 livres to be the amount of arrears of rents which are due to it; and that this ſum ſhall be delivered in proportions of 25,000 livres every decade.

18. The temporary commandant of the national fort called iſle Pelee, before Cherbourg, wrote, January 15. as follows:

"Citizen Preſident,

"Relate to the Convention, and to all France, the new maritime conqueſts of the republic over our bigotted enemies. The French frigates La Galathee, La Carmagnole, La Reſolve, and La Babet, have ſent five conſiderable prizes out of twelve, which they took near Torbay on the Engliſh ſhore, to Cherbourg. The firſt is a brig of 150 tons, which ſailed from Baltimore in America for Amſterdam, laden with coffee, ſugar, and cotton. The others are three Engliſh veſſels with three maſts; an Iriſh veſſel, laden with corn and ſalt pork; and a Daniſh galliot, freighted for England. I do not know of what their cargoes conſiſt, except the American and Iriſh ſhips; but a prize-maſter of La Galathee, to whom I ſpoke on board the American veſſel, ſays their cargoes are very valuable. The other ſeven prizes have ſailed for Morlaix.

(Signed) POTTIER.

The following letter was read from the council general of Boulogne:

"A ſuperb three-maſted ſhip, freighted with tobacco for the ferocious Engliſh, has been driven aſhore on our coaſt: *Vive la republique!* Our cannoneers acted with their uſual courage, and pierced that ſhip with three cannon balls. We had her towed to Boulogne. Her cargo conſiſts of 255 tons. We examined the captain's papers, and ſecured his perſon. If, from one ſide, the ſhips of our foreign enemies come to be wrecked on our ſhores, and, from the other, the projects of the domeſtic ruffians are fruſtrated by the zeal of the brave Sans Culottes of the Mountain, the cauſe of liberty will always triumph over that of the tyrants."

The preſident announced, that a number of the troops returned from the expedition at Vendee were at the bar. He was ordered to give them the fraternal embrace. The ſecretary read the following letter:

"*Fort National, Jan.* 18.

"Good news! more prizes gained from the enemies of the republic! this morning four veſſels have entered our road. In truth, it ſeems as if the Engliſh were determined to pay the expences of the war; for within the laſt two days, ten of their ſhips have been brought in by our frigates to the port of Cherbourg only; the ſame number have been carried into Morlaix; and beſides this, we have a rumour that a convoy of forty-five ſail have either fallen, or are likely to fall into our hands. This report will ſoon be confirmed or refuted; but at any rate, it is my duty to lay it before you.

"Every thing here is in the utmoſt activity, and according to the report of the oldeſt officers, there never was ſuch an example of

of indefatigable zeal:—Courage by ſea, as upon land, ſecures liberty to its defenders. Let us not, however, ſlacken our efforts in conſequence of our ſucceſs, but let us rapidly purſue our courſe, to the end that prudent philoſophy directs. May the patriots always remember the laſt year! May it always be preſent to their eyes, to prevent them from falling into that lethargy which was ſo pernicious to liberty! May they deſpiſe thoſe Charlotans, thoſe ſcoundrel retailers of phraſes at ſo much per line, who were clamorous in the tribune to procure the varniſh of popularity, only that they might the more ſecurely demoliſh the republic! May they, in fine, remember that the moſt dangerous pretext is, that of the public welfare! Health and fraternity.

MULAND."

"P. S. I break the ſeal of my letter to announce to you, that the Carmagnole, la Pomone, L'Engagement, and la Babet, are this moment come into the road, and bring us the certain accounts that the captures amount to fifty two veſſels, all very richly laden: they fell in with this convoy, under the eſcort of a brig and a ſloop, which they ſunk with a ſingle broadſide. All the ports of the Channel are full of veſſels taken from the enemy. A deſcent in the ſpring, and England will be free. Adieu."

The preſident ſaid, this news was ſo important that he demanded permiſſion to ſend to the committee of public ſafety to ſee if it was true.

A proviſional ſum of 500,000 livres was propoſed for ſuccouring the families of the national ſoldiers; many voices cried out that was not ſufficient, that nothing leſs than ten millions was fit for a great nation to give towards this object. The Jews of Avignon ſent all the ſilver of their ſynagogues.

The following letter from the commandant of Cherbourg was read:

"*Cherbourg, Jan.* 16.

"My laſt announced the entrance of five large Engliſh ſhips. Four veſſels, richly laden, have ſince arrived; and among other articles belonging to their cargo, are 400 barrels of Virginia tobacco.

"Our frigate La Carmagnole, and the reſt, are devils—Not contented with taking 12 veſſels, they thought proper to increaſe their number to 52. The two Engliſh corvettes which eſcorted them, have been ſunk. An hoſtile frigate had alſo ſome ſmart broadſides, but ſaved herſelf by flight.

"If things go on in this manner, the road of Cherbourg will ſoon look like an Engliſh road.—*Vive la Republique!*—*Vive* the impregnable Mountain!"

The Jacobin Club at Paris appeared to congratulate the Convention on the anniverſary of the execution of Louis Capet. Choumette, the national agent of the commonalty of Paris, read a ſpeech, of which this is the concluſion.

"Mountaineers, there is no happineſs with a king; no happineſs without liberty and equality. You have deſtroyed a king, and proclaimed liberty; you wanted then liberty and the happineſs of the people: you have well deſerved of the country." Here the Convention all roſe and took the oaths—Death to tyrants! To live free or to die! Long live the republic one and indiviſible!

22. Concerning the late intereſting events on the Rhine, Barrere thus began:

"Alſatia is ſecured to us. Fort Vauban is ours, ſaid the corrupt emigrants in their intercepted letters. Wait but a few days, ſaid the committee of public ſafety, in its laſt report of Landau, and the ſlaves of Pruſſia and Auſtria will no longer defile our territory: the prophecy is fulfilled, and Fort Vauban is at this moment occupied by the troops of the republic."

"Cowards are always cruel and deſtructive. The banditti have diſappeared like malignant meteors. They have ſet fire to a part of the fort; have laid waſte the various houſes of the town; have placed mines in all parts, ſome of which are ſprung, and have carried off the cannon. He then preſented the official letters."

Michaud, *General in Chief of the Army of the Rhine, to the Miniſter of War.*

"Citizen Miniſter,

"I date my letter from Fort Vauban. At the moment when we were actively preparing to ſubdue it by force, the enemy abandoned it for fear; this happened laſt night. We have witneſſed the exploſions occaſioned by the numerous mines which cowardice and raſcality dug under this fort. Devoring themſelves to death, our republicans ruſhed forward to ſnatch away the matches, which had not yet produced their effect. I aided in perſon with the brave repreſentative Lernann, and we had the ſatisfaction to find that the evil was not conſiderable. We ſhall ſoon have repaired this important poſt, into which I immediately ſent a ſufficient number of troops. Inform the National Convention of this delirium of the hirelings of deſpots. The brave army of the Rhine

no longer beholds ſlaves occupying the territories confided to its defence: the glory of cruſhing tyrants is reſerved to the brave Sans Cullottes. *Vive la Republique!*

Fort Vauban, Jan. 18. MICHAUD."

The repreſentative of the people with the armies of the Rhine and the Moſelle, to the preſident of the Convention.

"Citizen Preſident,

"The territory of the republic is at preſent purged, Fort Vauban is evacuated; it is purified by fire. The terror of the ſlaves of tyrants, and their deſpair, has done us juſtice on that treaſon which had delivered it up to the enemy. Juſt as we were on one part effecting the paſſage of the Rhine, and on the other preparing to carry it by aſſault, we beheld it on fire. We flew to its relief, and were almoſt covered by its ruins, hurled through the air by the mines which their villany had dug to avenge themſelves of our victories. This morning we made a nearer approach and diſcovered that the miſchief they have done us is not ſo great as we had at firſt imagined. We hope it will ſoon be repaired. They have carried off our artillery, which the bells ſhall ſoon replace. With the moſt lively tranſports of joy we inform you that this flight of the foe, who, under the preſent circumſtances, had we known how to profit by his poſition, might have kept us in check, is a moſt glorious victory. We imagine we may take upon us to ſend a certain number of troops from the army of the Rhine into cantonments. Victorious as they are, they deſerve that repoſe which will prepare them for new conqueſts.

"Proſperity to the republic! It is ſecured on the banks of the Rhine. The army of the Moſelle has likewiſe done wonders, of which I will ſoon render you an official account.

"We write to the committee of public ſafety. Secrecy, you know, is the ſoul of war; the enemy ought to be ignorant of our plans. Health and fraternity.

Fort Vauban, Jan. 18. LEVENANN."

25. The reſident at New York ſent an account how devoted they are to every act of the Convention, and that the three-coloured flag was carried through the ſtreets, united with that of America.

26. In conſequence of a report from the committee at war, the National Convention, conſidering the neceſſity of making, with the utmoſt ſpeed, all thoſe preparations which are neceſſary to complete the eſtabliſhment of the cavalry, made a decree for the purpoſe.

Barrere, in the name of the committee of public ſafety, ſaid, that to give effect to their preſent warlike exertions, the mariners ſhould be ſubjected to the ſame ſtate of requiſition as the other citizens, which the Aſſembly decreed.

A fruitful cauſe of evils to the republic, he ſtated to be the different idioms of language prevailing in France, by which means both ignorance and miſrepreſentation of the Conventional meaſures were occaſioned. In this way at La Vendee, *laws* had been confounded with *religion*, and a rebellion had enſued. The Convention decreed, that teachers, *not eccleſiaſtics*, nor members of priviledged bodies, ſhould be appointed in all the diſtricts, to inſtruct both ſexes in their proceedings, particularly relating to the rights of citizens, and in pure French.

A deputation of Americans requeſted the liberation of Thomas Payne, that apoſtle of liberty, in whoſe papers the committee had found no dangerous propoſitions, but that burning zeal for liberty, that eloquence of nature and philoſophy, and thoſe principles of morality, which had procured him the hatred of deſpots, and the love of his fellow-citizens; they demanded that he ſhould be reſtored to their fraternal embrace, and pledged themſelves for his conduct.

The preſident, after a high compliment to the American people, told them his being born in England ſubjected him to the decree in the firſt inſtance, which their ſafety demanded, and that the Convention would conſider their demand.

28. A letter from the general of diviſion Beaufort ſtated, that he had made 200 priſoners, had taken the ſame number of fuſees, and that by and by, the ſoil of freedom would be purged of the ruffians, of whom he was in purſuit.

29. Jambon St. Andre ſaid, he had new ſucceſſes to announce. Bréard and himſelf had ordered a ſquadron of three ſhips of the line and ſome frigates to cruize off the coaſt of Ireland. They returned to Breſt on the 4th of Pluvoiſe, (the 23d of January), after having made fifteen prizes, of which twelve were already come into port.

31. The public accuſer having wrote, that in the priſon of the Conciergerie, there was no ſuch perſon as the ex prince Talmond, the committee of public welfare

fare was ordered to inquire into the fact.

Jambon St. Andre informed the Convention, that the fleet of Breſt was purged, and the counter-revolutioniſts delivered over to the tribunal; that ignorance had been the chief cauſe of diſſenſion; and that proper teachers were appointed in every veſſel of 20 guns and above, to inſtruct the ſhip-boys in every neceſſary branch of knowledge; and that a ſchool of practical ſeamanſhip was eſtabliſhed in every veſſel. He concluded his report, aſſuring the Convention, that the arſenals of Breſt were in a ſtate of the greateſt activity, and if their example was followed throughout the nation, the republic had to look for the moſt brilliant ſucceſſes at ſea. The orders of the repreſentatives were approved of, and referred to the committee of public welfare, to be converted into general laws.

February 1. The Convention having heard a report from Doultier regarding the inconveniencies ariſing from miſinterpreting the decree of the 6th Auguſt, relative to the demolition of caſtles and forts in the interior, decreed, that all ſtrong caſtles, fortreſſes, and military poſts, the preſervation of which ſhould not be thought neceſſary, towers, thick walls, draw-bridges, or buildings, that bore a warlike or feudal character, ſhall be razed to the ground in two months.

Report of the Committee of Public Safety on the War.

"Our land forces," ſaid Barrere, in the name of the committee of public ſafety, "have made a glorious campaign; and our naval force will procure us an honourable peace. Peace has been talked of; you have been told that you mean to ſubject the Engliſh people to your meaſures; that you intend to tranſport Paris to London. Why will you laviſh ſo much French blood? The confederate Powers ſue for peace. You wiſh to dethrone all kings: Do you wiſh it for the purpoſe of undoing the revolution, or, at leaſt, in order to retard its beneficial conſequences? This is the common language of the moderates!

"The committee prepare a terrible war, with the view of only obtaining a ſolid peace. You deſire peace; the leagued kings do the ſame: but mark at what a price! A diplomatic agent in a neutral country ſaid, the other day, 'The confederate Powers are willing, proviſionally, to acknowledge the French republic:' (burſts of laughter): Well, let us, proviſionally, deſtroy all tyrannical governments (applauded). Do you know what the coaleſced kings are propoſing to you? A ceſſation of hoſtilities for two years. (No ceſſation of hoſtilities! was the general cry). They offer you a two years armiſtice, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing among you new Vendees; in order to recover their exhauſted ſtrength; to carry off your merchandize; to infect the popular ſocieties by their agents; to ſtir up new conſpiracies among you; perfidiouſly to take from you your arms, your proviſions, and to give you at laſt ſome royal ſcoundrel for a maſter. This is the ceſſation of hoſtilities which is offered you; at the term of its expiration they will grant you peace, they ſay; and this peace is to be ratified by the French people. Can it be forgotten, that a faction, whoſe intention it was to deſtroy liberty by this means, made ſimilar propoſals?

"The French people deſire peace; but an honourable peace, a peace ſuch as we ſhall be ready to ſign. The tyrants offer you peace, becauſe they have neither money nor ſoldiers. A negociator ſaid lately in Switzerland, 'but ſuppoſe it was intended to talk of peace, to whom in France ſhould an application of that kind be addreſſed?' To whom? This is not difficult to be determined, ſaid the national agent; we have 100,000 negociators at the army of the Rhine; 100,000 in the ſouth; and as many at the northern army. (Burſts of applauſe).

"Why ſhould the French people not act as Rome did? Why ſhould we not ſurround all kings with the famous circle of Popilius? If the Britiſh people wiſh for peace, why do they not ſpeedily detach themſelves from their infernal and deſpotic government? Let them ceaſe to behave like ſlaves, and we will grant them peace. The kings, we are told, demand peace, but what have theſe deſpots hitherto done to obtain it? Have they ceaſed to provoke the neutral governments againſt us, and to direct their perfidious manœuvres againſt a free people? Arms and gun-powder muſt alone procure us peace.

"The city, which ſtruck off the head of the tyrant, muſt alſo furniſh the arms and powder which are to ſave liberty. Every day you hear the fire-arms tried, which near your walls are made with unexampled activity! But it has been neceſſary to ſurmount great obſtacles; inſtruments were to be made, and workmen to be taught; patriotiſm wanted the aſſiſtance of art. At firſt, we had no more than 25 artificers able to make good muſquets, and who all came from Maubeuge: at preſent their number is increaſed to 500; 680 muſquets are now made in a day, and 6800 in a decade. We have fifteen foundries, which monthly produce 1100 pieces of ordnance.

"There exiſts a new way of accelerating the extraction of ſaltpetre. The chemiſts have with their art aſſiſted the cauſe of liberty, and this diſcovery alone would ſave it. We want for the next campaign 24,000,000 lb. of powder; they are ready. But our enemies may em-

ploy againſt us new perfidies, burn ſome magazines and make others ſurrender. We muſt be prepared for every event, and for this reaſon your committee is to propoſe to you new means.

" Your committee, in forming its reſolutions, have recollected the anſwer which Labourdonnaie in his dungeon gave to his keeper, who, ſurprized at the report of a piſtol, aſked him whence it proceeded? 'Why,' ſays Labourdonnaie, 'I might have killed myſelf if I had had a mind to do ſo; ſaltpetre I have ſcraped from the walls of my priſon; my fire-plate gave me charcoal; my matches, brimſtone; my ſpoon, a bullet; and this gold tooth-pick-caſe would have ſerved me as a piſtol.'

" Your committee has alſo called to its recollection the following paſſage, written twenty years ago by an officer of diſtinguiſhed talents (Count Guibert). 'There is to ſpring up a people of a manly genius, which ariſes to ſhake off its fetters, and ſettle a form of government, the whole of which will increaſe its force; it will frame juſt laws, and call forth a revolution in all Europe. This people is the French.'

" The Convention, on the propoſition of its committee of public ſafety, decreed, 'That there ſhould be eſtabliſhed a committee of arms and gunpowder, to be compoſed of three members.'"

The following reſolutions of the committees of finances, general ſafety, and public welfare, were paſſed on the 7th January, and were particularly referred to by Mr. Pitt, as of great importance. *Vide p.* 68.

Reſolutions of the Committee of Finances, General Safety, and Public Welfare, 7th Nivoſe (January, 1794).

" The commiſſion, charged with executing the reſolutions of the united committees of finances, public ſafety, and general welfare, which place in requiſition the effects of all bankers, merchants, and brokers, deſirous of employing the utmoſt expedition to obtain theſe articles, ſo neceſſary to the happineſs and dignity of the French people, reſolve as follows:

I. " That bankers, merchants, and all other citizens who have property veſted in foreign funds, ſhall by the next decade (January) make a declaration to the commiſſion of ſubſiſtencies and proviſions, firſt, of all the effects and funded property which they have in foreign countries; and ſecondly, of the ſold and unſold merchandizes which they have there.

II. " They ſhall alſo declare, with republican veracity, the names of citizens whom they know poſſeſs funded property or merchandize in the different parts of Europe.

III. " Commiſſioners ſhall very ſpeedily be ſent to the cities of Bourdeaux, Marſeilles, Nantes, Le Havre, Lille, Dunkerque, St. Maloes, and La Rochelle, to obtain ſimilar teſtimonies and declarations. The repreſentative of the people, Boiſſet, ſhall alſo be written to, to procure the ſame at Montpelier and Niſmes.

IV. " Five commiſſioners ſhall be choſen from among the bankers;

V. " And five more among the brokers.

VI. " The committee of general ſafety ſhall be invited to take off immediately the ſeals put upon the effects of the bankers, brokers, &c. in a ſtate of arreſt; and to remove from ſuch ſeals, all papers and effects declaring property abroad, in order to ſtipulate for the ſame citizens, as to the declarations required by the preceding articles

VII. " The commiſſioners choſen among the bankers and brokers ſhall be charged with conducting, directing, and ſuperintending the declarations. They ſhall name thoſe citizens who may delay complying, in order that they may be deſired to obey quickly the reſolutions of the united committees, and thoſe of the commiſſion of ſubſiſtencies. They ſhall alſo declare if any errors or fraud be committed in the declarations, that the commiſſioners may be enabled to repair the one, and prevent the other, according to the rigour of the laws.

VIII. " The national treaſury ſhall be invited to receive the value at *par*.

IX. " The commiſſioners choſen from among the bankers, called to this ſitting, being aſſembled, it is agreed, that the commiſſioners of their body ſhall be the citizens Pache, Perregeaux, Fulchiron, Baguenault, and Enfantin. They have mentioned as the commiſſioners to act as brokers, who are the citizens Page, Huppair, Du Columbier, Rogue, and Pilot, who have accepted the office."

GERMANY.

The Duke of Brunſwick has been making very great efforts, to ſecure and protect Mentz, Coblentz, and Manheim, by encreaſing the numbers of their garriſons. The head-quarters are at Oppenheim, and one part of his army is ſaid to have paſſed the Rhine, to join Gen. Wurmſer. The French army is ſaid to amount in that quarter to 80,000 men.

In an attack which they made on the Duke of Brunſwick, at Oppenheim, they were repulſed with conſiderable ſlaughter, and the loſs of ſeveral pieces of cannon.

The general hoſpital at Liſle is burnt down, and 1800 ſick who were in it have periſhed.

In an attempt made by the French, to croſs

croſs the Rhine, they were prevented by the Auſtrians, who ſunk ſeveral of their ſhips with their cannon.

The chancellor Valdevelde, at Bruſſels, hath given in his reſignation; the ſtates, who never acknowledged him, took no notice of it, and declared themſelves permanent till all matters between them and their ſovereign be adjuſted.

The Emperor hath been obliged to give up the diſpute with the ſtates of Brabant, concerning the appointment of their chancellor.

AFFAIRS ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.

About the end of laſt month, the French, who had puſhed their advantages a conſiderable way into the Palatinate, began to retreat towards their own frontier. They pillaged and deſtroyed the country wherever they approached, levying enormous contributions, and carrying off the principal perſons as hoſtages for their payment. The German peaſantry, irritated by the injuries received, and alarmed by the apprehenſion of a repetition of them, began to arm in every quarter, and aſſiſt the regulars in defending the country around Mayence, and Coblentz. In the electorate of Treves, and the circles of Franconia and Swabia, numerous bodies were formed.

The allies ſeem to have recovered, in ſome degree, from their conſternation, by repulſing the advanced parties of the enemy with conſiderable loſs. Gen. Wurmſer left the army to repair to Vienna, leaving the chief command, *ad interim*, to the Prince de Waldeck. Before departing, he announced the arrival of a conſiderable reinforcement of troops, to the amount of 26,000 men. The moſt vigorous preparations were going forward for the commencement of the third campaign, and the appointment of a new general was expected.

The King of Pruſſia, with his two ſons, and a ſupply of 25,000 troops, is to join his army on the frontier, where the Duke of Brunſwick commanded, but who reſigned, being in a bad ſtate of health; Gen. Mollendorf was believed to ſucceed him, he is adored by the ſoldiers, and eſteemed the greateſt general in the Pruſſian ſervice.

Fort Louis, which promiſed to give a ſecurity to the allies for eſtabliſhing their winter-quarters in Alſace, was abandoned on the 17th ult. after all its works were blown up, and completely deſtroyed. They marched out without moleſtation from the French, or the loſs of a man.

About this period the movements in the other hoſtile armies in Flanders, whoſe operation had been confined to ſkirmiſhing parties, indicated deſigns of the French, to attempt the diſplay of ſimilar ſcenes of the Mozelle and the Rhine, on the Maes and Sambre.

Large reinforcements were ſending to Gen. Jourdan's camp, whoſe army by the middle of February, it was believed would amount to 150,000 men. On the 16th ult. a large party of Prince de Cobourg's army croſſed the Sambre, and attacked the French entrenchments, which were carried by aſſault. Of the enemy, 700 were killed, 500 taken priſoners, and ſeven pieces of canon. The Auſtrians had 700 killed and wounded.

The poſts of the Britiſh army were unmoleſted. In an attack which the French made on the 20th, upon the town of Popperinghen, they were repulſed by the Flemiſh peaſantry, who flew to arms. The deſign of the enemy appears to have been to plunder, as they carried with them 300 waggons. The Auſtrian forces almoſt entirely ſurrounded the garriſons of Landrecy and Bouchain, which could only procure ſupplies of proviſion by occaſional ſallies, made ſword in hand. While the allies were hemming in the enemy in that quarter, their armies were buſied in making the neceſſary preparations for invading Weſt Flanders. They began to form a camp at Roſendhal, near Dunkirk, where gun-boats, and flat-bottomed boats, with other apparatus neceſſary for making a deſcent, were building with the greateſt expedition.

On the 25th Jan. Prince Hohenloe marched againſt Worms, which, after an obſtinate defence, with various ſucceſs, he at laſt took. In their excurſions into the Palatinate the French have plundered and deſtroyed wherever they could extend, rendering the enemy's country a

as little ſerviceable to the allies as poſſible. Dunkirk, and the adjacent places, were crouded with ſoldiers, and the preparations by ſea, in that port, in fitting out gun boats, were carried on with the utmoſt activity. Theſe movements and operations occaſioned a grand council of officers on the 6th at Bruſſels, to concert the neceſſary meaſures for preventing the conſequences which might be apprehended from the attack of ſo immenſe an army as 170,000 men, which the French would ſoon have in that part of the frontier. Preparations were made for the protection of Mons, which was ſuppoſed to be a principal object of their attack, and to keep up the communication between the allies and the conquered towns of Valenciennes, Conde, and Queſnoy, which it was ſuppoſed the French would endeavour to cut off. On the 30th Jan. the French ſent an officer to ſummon Manheim to ſurrender, which proved only to be intended to give them leave to carry off their plunder, as they had no troops from Worms to Spires.

The inhabitants of Heſſe Caſſel, from 18 to 50 years of age, have embodied themſelves, forming a force of near 100,000 men.

About the middle of this month the celebrated Auſtrian engineer, Col. Mack arrived in London, the object of his journey, is to concert with miniſtry the beſt mode of conducting the operations of the allied powers in their intended attack on the French frontiers.

At Vienna a war tax is determined on from the preſent abſolute neceſſity, it is now the buſineſs in agitation to deviſe the means of levying it, ſo as to fall as little as poſſible on the lower ranks. The Emperor has reſolved to ſend to the mint the ſervice of gold plate which coſt Francis I. one million of florins, he is alſo to adopt other œconomical regulations. Every account from that quarter announced a formidable train of military operations, for opening the campaign with vigour. Gen. Count Brown is to command an army on the Rhine.

The Engliſh Miniſter at Turin has ſignified the intention of his court to take into our pay 5000 French Emigrants.

SWEDEN.

The court of Sweden are daily taking more vigorous meaſures to prevent the introduction of French political principles into that kingdom.

All communication between Sweden and Denmark, is ſhut up, to prevent the flight of the conſpirators, who appear more numerous than was at firſt imagined.

The trial of the conſpirators is ſuſpended till the arrival of baron de Armfeldt, who is on his way from Italy as a priſoner. The officer who guards the counteſs of Rudenſkold was threatened with his life, by ſome perſons in maſks in the ſtreet, in caſe ſhe was not liberated in the courſe of four days; in conſequence patroles have been ordered and the guards doubled.

RUSSIA.

The court of Peterſburg is much diſpleaſed with ſome of the late proceedings at Warſaw, as appears from the declaration of the miniſter-plenipotentiary to the Poliſh court, "That if the permanent council did not find proper means of appeaſing the reſentment of his ſovereign, diſpleaſed at the reſtoration of the military order, and ſeveral other acts of the confederation of Grondo, her Imperial Majeſty would be under the neceſſity of cauſing a new confederation to be formed, and of convocating a new diet to repair the faults committed by that of Grodno."

SPAIN.

The Spaniſh and Portugueſe troops, on 21ſt December, attacked and carried all the enemies' advanced lines and batteries, who deſerted all their poſts, and retired into Perpignan, leaving the allies maſters of the country.

The ports of Genoa and Toulon are blocked up by Lord Hood's ſquadron, and all the allies in the Mediterranean compleatly guarded.

The general officers of the army of the eaſtern Pyrenees, have been ſuſpended. Three Generals of Diviſion, ten of brigade, and ten adjutant-generals.

General

General Hoche has exacted, from the country of Newſtadt, 10,000 pair of breeches, 10,000 coats, and 20,000 ſhirts, for the republican troops.

The greateſt part of the Britiſh fleet in the Mediterranean hath gone to Ferraro to refit. Admiral Trogoff in the Commerce de Marſeilles was in this diviſion.

The Jacobins have decreed, that the ſentence of Louis XVI. ſhall be engraved on marble, and placed upon the walls of their hall.

LONDON.

Jan. 30. The Privy Council hath been occupied in inveſtigating the circumſtances relative to the marriage of his Royal Highneſs Prince Auguſtus-Frederick with Lady Auguſta Murray, daughter to the Earl of Dunmore, who was on the 13th inſtant delivered of a ſon. A citation hath been iſſued againſt her to ſhew cauſe why ſhe calls herſelf the wife of Prince Auguſtus; they were married in Italy, about 13 months ago; and the ceremony was again performed in London after their return.

Prince Edward hath inſtituted a Sunday ſchool at Quebec. He is much eſteemed for his generoſity, and attention to whatever can concern the intereſts of the country; the meaſures of government are highly popular in that part of the world.

Accounts from Liverpool and other places on the coaſt, give melancholy details of the loſs of ſhips in the late ſtorm. Similar diſaſters have been experienced on the coaſts of Holland and Flanders. In the country, the ſnow was ſo deep in many places, as to render all communication impaſſable for carriages, or almoſt any other mode of conveyance.

Two natives of India, ſaid to be perſons of diſtinction, are arrived in England; they came over land from Bengal, their object is not yet known.

It appears by Lloyd's Liſts, that from the 1ſt of February 1793, to the 1ſt of February 1794, 316 ſhips have been taken by all the Allied Powers from the French; and that the French have taken from the Allied Powers 410. The balance, therefore, of captures in favour of France, is 94.

In the Court of King's Bench, Dublin, on the 29th ult. Mr. A. H. Rowan was tried on a charge of diſtributing and publiſhing a ſeditious libel. The evidence being cloſed, Counſel on both ſides were heard at great length. The Judges delivered their charge; at half paſt nine the Jury retired, and in ten minutes returned with a verdict of *guilty*. Mr. Rowan was then delivered into the cuſtody of the gaoler, and conveyed to Newgate.

On the 3d inſtant Mr. Pitt finally ſettled with the perſons to whom he propoſed the terms of the preſent loan; thoſe of Meſſrs. Angerſtein, Godſchal, Johnſon, and J. S. Morgan were accepted, and are as follow, viz.

L.	*s.*	*d.*		*L.*	*s.*	*d.*
100	0	0	3 per cents. Intereſt	3	0	0
25	0	0	4 per cents. ditto	1	0	0
0	11	5	per ann. long ann.	0	11	5
			Total Intereſt per cent.	*L.* 4	11	5

Admiral Gell, with four ſhips and the St. George, arrived at Gibraltar after a long cruize.

The Auſtrian forces in Italy are to be augmented with 20,000 men.

The Engliſh fleets blockade the port of Genoa, and the king of Naples has forbid them to trade in his ports; that ſtate will, however, obſerve a neutrality and not join the allied powers.

The Swallow packet arrived at Torbay the 5th inſtant, having on board Marquis Cornwallis from India, and part of his ſuit, the Swallow left Madraſs 10th October. The ſhips employed in the blockade of Pondicherry had ſailed for China. Marquis Cornwallis left the Company's poſſeſſions in an unexempled ſtate of proſperity. Tippoo Saib had made good all his payments, and had alſo deciſively given his opinion againſt the French, and declared that he would form no alliance with the Convention.

Lord Macartney is arrived at Pekin, the civility with which he was received by the Emperor of China gave him every hope of ſucceeding in his embaſſy.

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In the Iriſh Houſe of Commons a motion was made by Sir L. Parſons that copies of all the treaties, &c. with foreign powers touching the war, laid before the Britiſh Parliament, be alſo laid before that Houſe, which was negatived after a long debate. Ayes 9. Noes 128.

Very agreeable intelligence was received the 9th inſtant by diſpatches from the Lieut-Governor of Jamaica, dated the 15th of December 1793, containing information that Major Grant, commandant at Cape Nichola Mole, had accepted the ſurrender of the pariſhes of St. Marc, and Genaives in St. Domingo, to his Majeſty, upon the ſame terms and conditions which have been granted to Cape Nichola Mole, and the quarter of Jeremie; and that the Britiſh flag was, in conſequence, flying on all the forts and batteries in the above-mentioned pariſhes. *Lon. Gaz.*

The accounts of the Company of Sierra Leone, lately arrived, are ſuch as muſt give pleaſure to the mind of every one. The natives continued friendly, and diſcovered every diſpoſition of being connected with the Company. They had ſent their children to be educated in their ſchools, which contained between 300 and 400. Except the ſugar-cane which had been hurt by the white ant, the crops had flouriſhed and been productive. The Company's ſtore-ſhip York, had been unfortunately deſtroyed by fire; but from the ſituation of the colony, it would not thereby ſuffer any material loſs.

The diſpatches which arrived about the 9th inſt. from the Weſt Indies, give accounts that the mortality among the French and Engliſh iſlands had been very great, and ſtill was raging. The Spaniſh troops deſtined to act againſt the French in St. Domingo, had been prevented by ſickneſs. The people exaſperated by the exerciſe of their cruelties, had riſen up againſt the French commiſſioners, whom they were purſuing with every mark of vengeance.

General O'Hara writes from Paris, that he is not confined to a priſon, he may walk about the town: but it is painful to him not to be able to go abroad without wearing *a red cap*. This badge of anarchy and confuſion muſt, no doubt, ſit extremely heavy on the head of a royal officer, and a man of honour.

SCOTLAND.

The late trials for ſedition have, in a conſiderable degree, engaged the attention of the public, on account of their novelty in this country Thoſe of Mr. Muir and Mr. Skirving have been detailed in this work at conſiderable length. The crimes of which ſome have been convicted, and others ſtand accuſed, and the nature of the evidence are ſo much alike to the two above mentioned, that we think it unneceſſary to be very minute in our account of them. Where any material difference, however, occurs we will not fail to notice it.

TRIAL OF M. MARGAROT.

On Monday Jan. 13. came on before the High Court of Juſticiary the trial of Maurice Margarot, merchant in Marybone, London, preſently reſiding in the county of Edinburgh, accuſed at the inſtance of his Majeſty's Advocate of being guilty, actor, art and part, of *Sedition*, "In ſo far as, the ſaid Maurice Margarot, having been named a Delegate by an aſſociation of ſeditious people, calling themſelves the Correſponding Society of London, did repair to Edinburgh, with the felonious purpoſe of co-operating with an illegal aſſociation of ſeditious perſons, who originally deſigned themſelves "The General Convention of the Friends of the People;" but who have aſſumed the deſignation of *The Britiſh Convention of the Delegates of the People, aſſociated to obtain Univerſal Suffrage and Annual Parliaments.*"

The indictment in moſt other particulars is very ſimilar to William Skirving's; we ſhall not therefore inſert it.

When the diet was called over, M. Margarot aſked the Court, where was the Lord Juſtice General? and ſtated, that the Court, without him, was not competent to try him. He was indicted to ſtand trial before the Lord Juſtice General; and as that judge received 2000l. a-year for holding that office, it ſurely was of high importance, and he undoubtedly ought to give his attendance. He went on to ſtate that a queſtion of accuſation

ſation was hanging over the heads of the members of this Court, and would make its appearance in proper form before the Courts of Parliament. He reminded their Lordſhips of what had been the fate of many judges who, for their unjuſt proceedings, had forfeited their lives. He meant to aſk no favour, and he expected none; all that he aſked was juſtice. But on the preſent occaſion he conſidered this Court as incompetent to try him. The Juſtice General was abſent; perhaps the next day Lord Juſtice Clerk may likewiſe be abſent, one or more of their Lordſhips may next abſent themſelves, and the buſineſs of the Court may at laſt devolve upon the clerk or macer. He ſaid, he meant to ſummon Lord Juſtice Clerk and Lord Henderland; but he was told that would not be permitted. He then proteſted againſt the Court as incompetent, and required their Lordſhips to diſmiſs him *ſimpliciter* from the bar. The Court repelled the objection.

After the indictment was read over, the Lord Juſtice Clerk aſked the pannel "Whether he was *Guilty*, or *not Guilty*?" He anſwered, "There is no guilt ſtands at your bar, my Lord."

After this, he ſtated an objection to the relevancy of the indictment, in which the word *to* was uſed inſtead of *of*. He further requeſted to know, By what law *Sedition* was made a crime? In theſe he was fully anſwered by the Solicitor-General.

M. Margarot, ſaid, it appears I am charged with a ſpecies of ſedition ſomething of the nature of that for which Mr. T. Muir Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Skirving, have been puniſhed with tranſportation; but it is ſaid, the meetings lately held were ſeditious, I would aſk, Why? There are other conventions in Scotland, the borough reformers, and the county meetings, to which laſt indeed the Lord Advocate himſelf belonged; but there is a wide difference here, the one are county gentlemen, the other are only compoſed of tradeſmen and ſuch like. He next read the reſolutions of the ſociety which met in London in 1783, when the Duke of Richmond and Mr. Pitt were the great reformers of that day; and what, ſaid he, ſhould make that ſedition in 1794, which in 1784 was the greateſt exertion of patriotiſm. After dwelling much on this argument he ſaid, I inſiſt that the liſt of all the witneſſes be called over, and that a caption may be granted, to bring here ſuch as are abſent.

The Court then proceeded to give their opinion on the relevancy of the indictment, in which they all agreed, that the crimes charged in the indictment amounted within a very little of high treaſon; and if they were proved, they amounted to the higheſt degree of ſedition.

The pannel then ſtated that ſome of his witneſſes were in England, but that he had ſent a ſubpœna there, which had been returned with an affidavit upon the back of it, ſhewing that the ſummons had been regularly ſerved, and that it was now lodged with the Clerk of the Court.

The witneſſes were called over, and ſome found wanting, among theſe were the Duke of Richmond, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Dundas. The Lord Juſtice Clerk ſaid the juriſdiction of the Court did not reach England.

The pannel then demanded, that a ſecond diligence be iſſued to compel their attendance. The Court were of opinion, that they ought not to iſſue any diligence which they could not enforce.

The Lord Juſtice Clerk then nominated the jury, as follows:

Meſſ. James Gordon, brewer; Thomas Hotchkis, brewer; Samuel Gilmor, rope-maker; James Clark, farrier; James Mill, tanner; William Smith, ſtabler; Charles Robertſon, painter; John Balfour, merchant; John Wilſon, coach-maker; William Ainſlie, ſadler; William Pirnie, architect; Samuel Anderſon, banker; Robert Burn, architect; Macduff Hart, ſhoemaker; John White, merchant; all in Edinburgh.

When the firſt five were named, the pannel ſaid, My Lord, I wiſh to know by what law you have authority to pick the Jury?

The Court informed him, that by law his Lordſhip was entitled to name them.

After the proof was finiſhed the Lord Advocate roſe to addreſs the Jury on the part of the Crown. His Lordſhip ſaid, they were now called on to decide as to the evidence that had been adduced be-

fore them. The pannel had, in a ſpeech, or rather ſucceſſion of ſpeeches, with no great reſpect to the jury, inferred as much as though they were a packed jury, and that I was capable to impoſe upon their judgment; but God forbid that I ſhould ever attempt to do any ſuch thing. Neither is it in the power of the higheſt character in the nation to keep him from a fair and impartial trial; and you, gentlemen, feel greater independence than to allow ſuch to be practiſed upon you. I, gentlemen, will do my duty, the duty I owe to my country, and I care not for what the pannel, in the height of his intemperance, may ſay. Neither do I regard the foul aſperſions of thoſe without doors, who may chuſe to miſrepreſent my conduct.

The pannel has been charged with ſedition. Upon this, much has been obſerved with regard to the nature of it, and that too, by men who ought certainly to be maſter of that ſubject, ſince they conſider themſelves poſſeſſed of abilities fitting them to bring about a reform in parliament, and an alteration of the conſtitution. The learned counſel who opened the proſecution traced ſedition to its earlieſt authority. Sir George M'Kenzie defines it diſtinctly and clearly. When any man, whatever his pretence may be, endeavours to excite commotions in the country, when, as in this caſe, the ſpecious pretext was reform, yet not by an addreſs to the King or Parliament, but by imitating the example of France, by forming themſelves into a diſtinct body to overawe Parliament, and in caſe of invaſion to aſſiſt France, is not this clearly and diſtinctly the crime of ſedition? Such is the nature of the proceedings of the convention, of which this pannel was an active member, and there remains not a doubt of its being highly ſeditious. Such, gentlemen, is my view of the caſe; give it your attention, and exerciſe your judgment.

Of the evidence a great part conſiſts in written papers found upon the pannel. By examining theſe, little doubt will remain of the purpoſes he had in view. Gentlemen of the jury, you have alſo the evidence of the minutes of the convention, which are acknowledged by Roſs and Aitchiſon. You have a motion made by Callendar, propoſing, that in caſe a convention-bill was brought into the Houſe of Commons ſimilar to that in Ireland, then the convention of emergency were to meet. There is evidence that Margarot pled for the ſpirit of this motion, and alſo moved for a ſecret committee to name that place of meeting, and that letters were to be uſed for that purpoſe. His lordſhip went on, applying the proof to the libel in a very diſtinct and able manner, and concluded by calling on the jury to pay attention to the evidence before them, and return ſuch a verdict as their conſcience would approve.

Mr. Margarot, who had no counſel, addreſſed the jury in his own defence. He exhorted them, in deciding on this cauſe, not to think ſo much of him as of themſelves and their country. He ſtated, that it was the cauſe of reform that was repreſented by him, and it was properly for that cauſe that he was tried. He then expatiated upon the corruption of the repreſentation in Parliament, heavy taxes, and the neceſſity of a reform. After this he took a view of the conſequences of the American war, then of the preſent war, which he declared to be numerous bankruptcies, and a ruined trade. He continued ſpeaking nearly four hours, during which he introduced much extraneous matter upon criminal law, and threw out many perſonal remarks upon different gentlemen who had formerly eſpouſed the cauſe of reform, but had ſince deſerted it. He concluded with obſerving, that he was not at all alarmed for what the conſequences of their verdict might be to himſelf; he was cool and collected, and was a ready and willing ſacrifice for the good of the cauſe he had eſpouſed. He urged the jury to be careful of their verdict, as it was their country they were now ſitting in judgement upon.

The Lord Juſtice Clerk then addreſſed the jury. He obſerved that the pannel had met with much indulgence in the courſe of the trial, becauſe he was a ſtranger; and he had not been interrupted, tho' much of his ſpeech was ſeditious in itſelf, and a great deal of it an inſult to

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the Court. His Lordſhip then recapitulated the principle part of the evidence, requeſting the jury to give the whole their mature conſideration, and to return ſuch a verdict as their conſciences ſhould dictate. The whole procedure finiſhed at three o'clock on Tueſday morning, when the jury were incloſed, and the pannel carried to priſon. About two o'clock the jury returned their verdict, unanimouſly finding the pannel *guilty*.

The pannel again repeated the objections he had formerly made to the validity of his trial, and proteſted againſt the whole proceedings as being illegal. All which were repelled.

The Court then all agreed in paſſing ſentence of tranſportation for fourteen years.

During the courſe of the trial, two perſons were committed to priſon for improper behaviour in the gallery.

EDINBURGH.

February, 1794.

1. Meſſrs Gerald and Sinclair having found bail, were this day liberated from jail.

William Muir, Eſq; of Caldwall, was, on the 28th ult. admitted Lord Rector of the Univerſity of Glaſgow.

3. Alexander Scott printer, accuſed of ſedition, having failed to appear to ſtand trial, ſentence of fugitation was pronounced againſt him.

Petitions were preſented to the High Court of Juſticiary, from Meſſrs. Gerald and Sinclair, praying their Lordſhips to remit their bail which had been declared forfeited. Their Lordſhips agreed to this, as the great fall of ſnow had prevented their arrival in town to ſtand trial on the day appointed.

Mr. James Watt was choſen miniſter of the aſſociate congregation at Ayr, on the 27th ult.

Meſſrs. Margarot and Skirving arrived at London, and were committed to Newgate.

The late ſtorms have been attended with very fatal effects. A conſiderable number of ſhepherds have periſhed; many bridges have been broken down, and other diſaſtrous conſequences have been communicated from different parts of the country.

6. Dr. Angus M'Donald of Taunton was received a Fellow of the Royal College of Phyſicians.

The Univerſity of St. Andrews conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity on the Rev. Mr. George Campbell, ſenior miniſter of Cupar Fife, and chaplain to the Breadalbane fencibles.

The number of veſſels wrecked or loſt on the coaſts of Yorkſhire and Durham, during the late ſtorms, are computed at about ſixty; the crews of moſt of which have periſhed.

A melancholy accident happened on the 31ſt January laſt, at Ardchoill in Breadalbane; the walls of a houſe were carried away by a torrent of water in the night-time. The father with ſix of his children were inſtantly ſmothered. The wife and one girl are ſaved They have alſo loſt 13 cattle.

Six new regiments to be raiſed in Scotland are given to the following noblemen and gentlemen: the Marquis of Huntley, Colonel Campbell of Lochnell, Sir James Grant, Colonel Graham, General Douglas and M'Kenzie of Seaforth; theſe regiments are to conſiſt of 1000 men each.

This day the magiſtrates pronounced ſentence againſt Mr. John Hepburn, farmer at Barefoot in Eaſt Lothian, convicted of exciting diſturbances and of rioting on the ſtreets upon the 9th ult. when Mr. Margarot was to have ſtood trial. The magiſtrates fined Mr. Hepburn of L. 21 Sterling, found him liable in full expences, and ordained him to find caution for his good behaviour for three years, under the penalty of 100l. Sterling.

On the 7th inſtant the Court of King's Bench, Ireland, gave their opinion in the caſe, the King *v.* H. Rowan, when they were unanimouſly of opinion, "that there was no ground for ſetting aſide the verdict"

Mr. Juſtice Boyd pronounced the ſentence of the Court, "That Archibald Hamilton Rowan ſhould be impriſoned in the gaol of Newgate for two years, to

commence from the day of his trial; that he ſhould pay a fine of 500l. to his Majeſty, and remain in priſon till the ſame be paid; and that he ſhall give ſecurity to keep the peace for ſeven years, himſelf in 2000l. and two ſureties in 1000l. each."

Mr. Rowan was remanded to Newgate.

At the anniverſary meeting of the Britiſh Wool Society, the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the enſuing year: viz. Sir John Sinclair of Ulbſter, Bart. chairman, Sir Alexander Ramſay of Balmain, deputy chairman, Sir William Forbes of Pitſligo Bart. treaſurer, Mr. James Horne, Writer to the Signet, ſecretary.

Many preſbyteries of Scotland have teſtified their loyalty, and expreſſed their diſapprobation of the dangerous effects, which the principles propagated by the French may have upon the minds of the people of this country; and have publiſhed reſolutions expreſſing their opinion, and pledging themſelves to uſe their endeavours to counteract the influence of ſuch principles, and to excite in the people a zealous concern for the peace and proſperity of their country. Such conduct is highly worthy the miniſters of peace, and we hope will be attended with the wiſhed-for effect.

Proclamations have been iſſued by the magiſtrates and ſheriff, requiring the owners of dogs to confine them within doors for the ſpace of forty days, as ſeveral mad dogs have lately appeared in different parts of the country.

It is ſomewhat remarkable that ſo conſiderable a number of mad dogs ſhould have made their appearance at this ſeaſon of the year. It is, we apprehend, owing to infection communicated by bite or otherwiſe, ſome months ago. Advertiſements have appeared from different counties prohibiting dogs from going about at large. A poor girl was brought to the Infirmary on the 13th, who had been bit near Comieſton. The magiſtrates have fined ſeveral gentlemen for neglecting the regulation enjoined by their proclamation. *For cure, ſee p. 96.*

Two ſoldiers belonging to the Queen's dragoons, and a day-labourer, were found ſuffocated by the ſnow in going through Sheriff-moor on the 13th.

The following ſtatement ſhows the application of the exchequer-bills granted for the relief of the public credit prior to the 5th of Auguſt 1793.

			L. 3,724,824
Granted as under,	L. 2,129,200		
Withdrawn, -	173,100		
Rejected, -	390,524		
Abandoned, -	617,000		
Undetermined, -	415,000		
			3,723,824
There were granted to			
Glaſgow, -	319,730		
Leith, -	25,750		
Banff, -	4000		
Perth, -	4000		
Dundee, -	16,000		
Edinburgh, -	4000		
Paiſley, -	31,000		
			404,480
London, -			989,700
Liverpool, -			137,020
Manchester, -			246,500
Briſtol, -			41,500
Other places, -			310,000
			L. 2,129,200

The anniverſary ſermon preached by Mr. Moodie for relief of the induſtrious blind, on Tueſday 17th, was attended by a reſpectable audience; the collection amounted to L. 71: 9: 4. It muſt be grateful to the minds of the directors of that benevolent inſtitution, that their endeavours meet with the approbation of the public. We learn that there is a quantity of matts, the manufacture of the blind, to be ſold No. 8. Shakeſpeare Square.

The Theatre has been attended by a very genteel and numerous audience during Mr. John Palmer's ſtay. We have ſcarcely ever ſeen a more brilliant company than appeared in the boxes on the 26th; the play being at the deſire of the Dean and Faculty of Advocates. The attendance of the members of faculty was, however, but ſcanty.

On the 19th St Enoch's church, Glaſgow, was broken open by ſome active ſacrilegous citizen. After breaking open the deſk of the precentor, they forced the door of communication with the ſeſſion houſe, which they rummaged, and inſcribed on its walls, in capital let-

letters, the words *Liberty and Equality*. They alſo deſtroyed the bruſhes, and painting utenſils of the workmen now employed in painting the church. To enlighten them in this profitable depredation, they took a lamp, and the cruiſe of another, from the adjoining ſquare.

24. The trial of Charles Sinclair which ſhould have proceeded this day, was, at the pannel's requeſt, adjourned to Monday the 10th March,

The caſe of Capt. Johnſtone fixed for this day (24.) has likewiſe been delayed.

By accounts from Gottenburgh, we learn that a dreadful fire broke out there on the 4th inſtant, it is ſaid from 100 to 120 houſes were conſumed. Fortunately none of the Britiſh have ſuffered.

The lawyers employed on the ſubject of the marriage of his R. H. Prince Auguſtus with Lady A. Murray, have had ſeveral meetings. The reſult of their deliberations ſeems favourable to the young couple. Marriages ſolemnized abroad, are, by various Acts of the Britiſh Parliament, recognized in this country; and the Act of Parliament which was paſſed in the beginning of the preſent reign, prohibiting the marriage of any of the Royal Family without the conſent of his Majeſty, and on which the preſent application for a divorce is founded, does not extend to marriages contracted abroad.

In the Houſe of Commons of Ireland, the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced the Ways and Means, obſerving, that he meant as little as poſſible to add any preſſure on the induſtrious and indigent part of ſociety, whom he would relieve as much as poſſible, by taxing the luxuries of life. It was his object to reduce the tax on beer, and to increaſe it on ſpirits, which was a continuation of a meaſure that had operated favourably. The objects of taxation were teas, cards, dice, carriages, malt, bills of exchange, receipts, &c. He propoſed for conſideration, a ſmall duty on leather in its firſt proceſs, which would not exceed 1d. *per* pair on ſhoes; the tax on tea was equally moderate, but one halfpenny under the price of four ſhillings, and one penny above that price. The Chancellor next propoſed a bounty on foreign bark; this meaſure ſeemed to be calculated to equipoiſe the duty he had propoſed on leather. Bills of exchange and receipts were propoſed as inſtruments of duty, which he ſaid would bear but half the proportion with the Engliſh taxation. Carriages he propoſed to tax one third more, which would equal ſix guineas *per* carriage. Theſe taxes, with nine pence *per* barrel on malt, were nearly the whole propoſed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, by whom ſome remarks were thrown out, tending to ſhow that the proprietors of malt-houſes eluded the legal tax, and that therefore in that department there was a very great deficiency.

Decreet has been pronounced in the action of divorce at the inſtance of ~~her Grace~~ the Ducheſs of Hamilton againſt his ~~Lordſhip~~. *Grace*

27. Mr. Hepburn has paid his fine of twenty guineas, formerly mentioned. He applied by bill of ſuſpenſion againſt his ſentence to the High Court of Juſticiary; but their Lordſhips were pleaſed to refuſe the bill, with coſts. The magiſtrates immediately ordered the twenty guineas to be paid into the Managers of the Charity Work-houſe.

This day was appointed by his Majeſty's proclamation for a public faſt and humiliation, throughout Scotland, for ſupplicating the Deity to avert the calamities of war, and thoſe heavy judgements which our ſins have juſtly deſerved; and to implore his bleſſing and aſſiſtance upon our arms, and to reſtore peace and proſperity to theſe kingdoms. The ſame was obſerved in a very devout manner. All the churches were crowded, and the ſermons preached by the ſeveral clergymen, ſo far as we have been able to learn, were replete with loyalty, good ſenſe, and piety, and gave general ſatisfaction to the hearers. The topics chiefly inſiſted on were the excellence of the Britiſh Conſtitution, and the great degree of liberty we enjoy, both civil and religious: The miſery, and calamities of France, which were traced to the ambition and licentiouſneſs of her princes, the intrigues of her Court, the proſligacy of her clergy, and the ſuperſtition of her religion.—It was obſerved, that the French had been fool-
iſh and wicked enough to deny a partic-

lar Providence; and ſo depraved, as to hope for annihilation by calling death an *eternal ſleep*—that they had impiouſly converted the houſe of God to a temple conſecrated to modern philoſophy, and the worſhip of the goddeſs of freedom. It was demonſtrated, that *French equality* was an *equality of miſery*. Perſonal holineſs, with a firm belief and truſt in a particular providence, and in that God who ruleth among the nations, were ſtrongly inculcated. That while we fear God, we ſhould honour the king, and love the brotherhood. Regard to our Conſtitution, reſpect to laws and to rulers, reverence to religion and its inſtitutions, it is the duty of every Chriſtian, and every good citizen to cheriſh and maintain.

A Collection is now making under the authority of the Magiſtrates, the Lords of Seſſion, Faculty of Advocates, and other public bodies, for the purpoſe of paying off the debt of the Charity Workhouſe. No public collection has been made for this inſtitution ſince the year 1783. It appears, that the debt of the houſe at preſent is 5301l 4s. 11d. From the ſucceſs of this collection and the new arrangement in the management, made chiefly under the direction of a very philanthropic citizen, who has paid infinite attention to the matter, it is not doubted that the ordinary revenues will in future anſwer the outgivings; as it appears from the report of the committee who examined the books and accounts, that the ordinary funds for the half year poſterior to that 1ſt July laſt, when the new mode of management had taken its full effect, exceeded the expenditure in upwards of 263l. Sterling.

APPEALS

Feb. 5. William Ker of Chatto, appellant, *verſus* Mr. Redhead, reſpondent.—Decree reverſed.

William Black of Netherdon, and Iſaac Grant writer to the ſignet, *Appellants*, and George Gordon of Rothcrey, and others, creditors on the eſtate of Kincragie, reſpondents. Decree affirmed.

11. Alexander Milne, of Chapelton, Eſq; appel. G. Skene of Skene, Eſq; reſpon.—The appellant and 57 others, were, on the 5th Oct. 1790, expunged from the roll of Freeholders of the county of Aberdeen, as nominal and fictitious voters. The matter was afterwards carried before the Court of Seſſion, which, by ſix different interlocutors, confirmed the reſolution of the meeting.—The Houſe reverſed the interlocutors.

21. Heard counſel in the appeal, Reid, King, and Co. of New-York, againſt Meſſ. Coats of Glaſgow. Decree reverſed, on the motion of Lord Thurlow. This judgement eſtabliſhes an important point in mercantile law, contrary to a train of deciſions in the Court of Seſſion, viz. That when a bill of exchange is given, not in the uſual courſe, but depoſited as a collateral ſecurity for a debt, the perſon with whom it is depoſited, muſt negociate it, as in the common caſe of foreign bills, otherwiſe he makes it his own. In this caſe, the terms of the receipt given for the depoſited bill were, that the taking it ſhould *not* exonerate the acceptors, &c. of the original bill, unleſs *actual payment* was made; but the Houſe declared, that theſe words did not exeem the holder from the obligation to negociate duly.

The weather, during the greateſt part of the month of February, has been open and mild. There has been very little froſt, but now and then very violent ſqualls of wind. We have obſerved that 24 hours have ſeldom paſſed without ſome violent guſts of wind, attended with rain, which have proved very detrimental to the ſhips at ſea. The fields it may be ſaid, have never loſt their verdure; though the cultivation of the ground has been a good deal interrupted by the wet weather. All ſorts of neceſſaries have, upon the whole, been moderate in price. Coals have kept at a price much below what was apprehended; indeed they have ſeldom exceeded 6s 6d. for 12 cwt. Beef and mutton continue at 3d. and 4d. *per* lb. Veal ſcarce, and little of it good in quality. Salmon in conſiderable quantity and very good, from 10d. to 1s. *per* lb.—Of white fiſh there has been a pretty conſtant ſupply, and the herrings ſtill continue to frequent the Forth, prodigious quantities being expoſed every day in the market ſo cheap as 16 and 18 for a penny.

LISTS.

CAPTURES.

By the Britiſh.

LLOYD'S LIST.

L'Inconſtante, French frigate of 40 guns, by the Penelope and Iphigenia frigates.

The Viper, a brig of 18 guns, by the Flora frigate.

Feb. 11. The Biens-Aimè is taken at Bengal, and the Citoyen with ſtores for Pondicherry, is taken by Admiral Cornwallis' ſquadron off Pondicherry.

The Blanche frigate has captured the Sans Cullotte privateer of 20 guns, and carried her into St. Kitts.

The Swediſh brig Alta, Iraundſchaft, ſuppoſed with French property, is taken by the Quebec frigate, and carried into Madeira.

21. The Brilliant frigate, Capt Robertſon, has taken the Elegance, (a Swede) laden with naval ſtores, and ſent her into the Downs. Alſo re-taken and ſent into Dover, the Good Intent of London, and the Friends' Goodwill, of Sunderland, both coal laden, both formerly taken by a French privateer near Yarmouth.

The Hope, from the Southern fiſhery to Dunkirk, is taken by the Fox, letter of marque, of London, and carried into Barbadoes.

25. The Pigot, arrived at Bengal, has taken a ſhip from the Mauritius for France.

By the French.

The Eaton from Liverpool to Oſtend, is taken by a French frigate and carried into Havre.

Madras Courier, October 1.

"The Ceres, Berkley, of 250 tons burthen, from Bombay, was taken off Acheen head on the 16th of Auguſt by the General Dumourier privateer, mounting 22 guns, from Mauritius, and reported that twenty-two more were fitted out there, ſix it was ſaid for the Bay, four for the ſtreights of Sunda, four for Malacca, and the reſt for the gulph of Perſia, Red Sea, and Malabar coaſt. Some of theſe privateers, the Grand Dumourier, La Fayette, &c. are ſaid to carry 40 guns.—The Egalite joined the General Dumourier a few days after.

"Beſides ſome previous captures, their prizes were the Polly, Taylor; the Induſtry Snow, Budden; the Floyer brig, Parkinſon, and the Ketch George, Hindes.

"The Egalite, and her prize the Polly, had fallen in with the Bombay fleet, three Indiamen, and nine country ſhips, on the 9th of Auguſt, off Acheen Head.

"The Dumourier and Egalite ſtood away to the eaſtward, intending, as they ſaid, to attempt the plunder of Pulo Pinang, one of the Prince of Wales's iſlands. They talked alſo of going down the Bay towards Bengal."

11. The Roman Emperor, Smith, from St. John's to the Weſt Indies, is taken by a French privateer, and run a-ſhore at Guadaloupe.

The George, Thomſon, from Liverpool to Africa, was taken on 1ſt January, by a French frigate.

The Friendſhip, Hill, from Sunderland to Oſtend, is ſuppoſed to be taken and carried to Dunkirk.

14. The Somerſet from Briſtol, is carried into France.

The Le Hirondelle, (prize to the Gipſey) from Africa to the Weſt Indies, is taken by the Sans Cullotte privateer, and carried into St. Lucia.

18. The brig Friends, Smith, from Jamaica, is captured by a French privateer, and ſent into Martinique.

The Friendſhip, Leſlie, from Jamaica and the Havannah to London, is taken by the Cabra privateer, and carried into Charleſtown.

25. Accounts are received by the Minerva from Bengal, (arrived in the Channel, bound to Oſtend). "That ſeveral Engliſh country-ſhips are taken by the French in the Indian ſeas, amongſt whom is a Capt. Berkley; alſo that 16 ſail of merchant ſhips, under convoy of two frigates, left the Mauritius about the end of October, bound to France.

The Princeſs Royal, Horncaſtle, from London and St. Helena to China, was taken, on the 28th September, by three French privateers near Sunda iſlands, and carried to the Mauritius, where ſhe is fitted out as a privateer.

The Nimble pilot boat of Cowes, from Alderney, arrived at Portſmouth, was chaced by a French frigate, who took four Engliſh ſloops in their ſight, and ſent them into Cherbourg. The maſter of the Nimble was informed at Alderney, that the ſame frigate had taken, within a few days, eleven Engliſh veſſels, and ſent them to Cherbourg.

The Mermaid, laden with fruit, from Oporto, and the Bonny, (ſuppoſed to be the Bonetta) from Vienna, ſalt laden, are taken and carried into Breſt.

MARRIAGES.

His Royal Highneſs Prince Auguſtus, to Lady Auguſta Murray.

About eighteen months ſince, Lady Dunmore, whoſe huſband is now Governor of the Bahama iſlands, went with her two daughters to Italy, where they reſided till very lately. His Royal Highneſs Prince Auguſtus, being at Rome, met with thoſe ladies, and very naturally courted their agreeable ſociety; the conſequence of which was, a mutual attachment between his Royal Highneſs and Lady Auguſta Murray, and they were there married.

Lady A. Murray became pregnant, and returned to England. His Royal Highneſs alſo returned

turned; and, at the inſtance of the lady and her friends, a ſecond marriage took place.

The parties were regularly aſked in the church of St. George's, Hanover-ſquare, in the month of November laſt, and on the 5th of December they were again united, according to the ceremonies of the church of England, under the names of Auguſtus Frederick, and Auguſta Murray.

Prince Auguſtus is 21 years of age,—Lady Auguſta Murray is approaching 30.

Jan. 27. At Edinburgh, Mr. George Crawford merchant Glaſgow, to Miſs Mary Wilſon, daughter of Wm. Wilſon of Wilſontown, Eſq;

28. At Glaſgow, Capt. David Denny, to Miſs Charlotte Oliphant, daughter of the Rev. Mr. James Oliphant, miniſter at Dumbarton.

Feb. 3. At Glaſgow, W. H. Barrowſtown, Eſq; to Miſs Robertſon, daughter of Mr. J. Robertſon, one of the magiſtrates of Glaſgow.

7. At Edinburgh, Dr. Andrew Wilſon phyſician in Kelſo, to Miſs Margaret Scott, eldeſt daughter of R. Scott, Eſq; of Orchard.

13. The Hon. Capt. Francis Gray, to Miſs Mary-Ann Johnſtone, daughter of Major Johnſtone.

14. At Edinburgh, Mr. John M'Kerrel of London, to Miſs C. Harvey, youngeſt daughter of the deceaſed Dr. J. Harvey phyſician in London.

17. John Connel, Eſq; advocate, to Miſs Margaret Campbell, daughter of the Right Hon. the Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion.

19. At London, John Minet Fector, Eſq; of Updown, to Miſs Mary Lawrie, only daughter of Sir Robert Lawrie, Bart. of Maxwelton.

22. Lewis M'Kenzie, Eſq; eldeſt ſon of Sir Roderick M'Kenzie, Bart. to Miſs Lockhart, daughter of the late Thomas Lockhart, Eſq; commiſſioner of exciſe.

24. At Edinburgh, William Grant of Congalton, Eſq; to Miſs Dorothea Dalrymple, daughter of the deceaſed Hew Dalrymple of Nunraw, Eſq;

BIRTHS.

Jan. 13. Lady A. Murray a ſon to Prince Auguſtus.

Feb. 1. At Newbattle Abbey, the Counteſs of Ancram, a ſon and heir.

At Saliſbury-green, Mrs. Stark of Kingſdale, a daughter.

8. Mrs. Murray of Polemaiſe, a ſon.

9. Mrs. Campbell of Barcaldine, a daughter.

9. Mrs. Hay of Spott, a daughter, at Dublin.

12. Mrs. Cockburn Roſs, a ſon.

At Glaſgow, the wife of a heel-cutter in Bridge-ſtreet, was delivered of three boys.

19. Mrs. Falconer Woodcote, a daughter.

23. Mrs. Stark of Teaſſes, a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Jamaica, on 6th December, Mr. George Porteous, ſecond ſon of the Rev. Dr. Porteous Glaſgow.

At Barbadoes, 12th December laſt, Lieut. Charles M'Gahen of the 21ſt foot.

In the Eaſt Indies, on 22d Auguſt, Lieut. Alexander Gordon, ſecond ſon of the late William Gordon of Nethermuir.

On the 15th November laſt, in Jamaica, Mr. James Gardiner of Glaſgow, after a reſidence of 30 years.

Colonel Daſey who was appointed to the command at Cape Nichola Mole, in the iſland of Hiſpaniola, was, in November laſt, attacked with a fever, which, in ſix days, terminated his valuable life.

Jan. 18. At Dundee, Mrs. Miller, wife of M. R. Miller, bookſeller.

21. Miſs Margaret M'Culloch of Forhouſſie.

22. Miſs Anna Maxwell, ſecond daughter of the Rev. Mr. Maxwell miniſter of New Machar.

23. At Dumfries, James Gordon, Eſq; of Jamaica.

24. At Wilton-abbey, the Right Hon. Henry Herbert, Earl of Pembroke; his Lordſhip was Lord Lieutenant of the county of Wilts, Governor of Portſmouth, High Steward of Saliſbury, a General in the army, and Colonel of the 1ſt regt. of dragoons. His Lordſhip married Elizabeth Spencer, daughter to the late Duke of Marlborough. His only ſurviving iſſue is Lord Herbert, who ſucceeds him in the titles.

24. At his ſeat in Yorkſhire, Sir Charles Hotham, K. B. a general of his Majeſty's forces.

24. At Edinburgh, Mr. Andrew Haliburton, W. S.

24. Archibald Goldie in Shaws of Tinwald.

24. At the manſe of Calſamond, the Rev. Dr. William M'Lieſh.

26. At Glaſgow, Mr. John Cumming merchant there.

27. In Caithneſs, Mr. John Grant.

27. At Aberdeen, Miſs Janet More.

29. At Ardgarton, Capt Archibald Campbell.

Feb. 1. At Inverneſs, Mr. John Ogilvie late a land-waiter there.

At Lennel-Houſe, Mr. William Brydone, only ſon of P. Brydone, Eſq;

2. John Dewar, youngeſt ſon of Mr. Dewar of Vogrie.

2. At Dundee, Mr. John Speed merchant.

3. At Dundee, Mrs. Ramſay, wife to Mr. James Guild.

At Jamaica, Benjamin Downie of Bellſdike, Stirlingſhire.

5. At

5. At Dundee, James Small ſenior, merchant.

6. At Glaſgow, George Buchanan, Eſq; merchant.

7. At Glaſgow, Mr. William Bogle, merchant.

8. At Preſtonpans, John Roſs, Eſq; late Major of the 31ſt Regt. of foot.

Mrs. Elizabeth M'Kenzie at Applecroſs.

10. At Eſk-mills, Mrs. Haig, relict of the late Mr. Haig merchant in Alloa.

10. At Perth, the Rev. Mr. John Duff.

13. At Edinburgh, Mr. Thomas Baillie writer.

13. The Hon. Baron Rutherford of Fernington.

15. Mr. James Morriſon, late principal clerk in the Annexed ſtates office.

15. At Brechin, Mr. David Lindſay ſchoolmaſter there.

16. Edward Witts, youngeſt ſon of E. Witts, Eſq; George ſquare.

At Dura, Miſs Mary Bayne.

The Rev. James Lyell of the Scotch epiſcopal communion.

Mrs. Elizabeth Randall, relict of Mr. James Fotheringham in Kirkwall.

At Dumfries, Mr. John Wilſon merchant.

19. At Newton Don, Mrs. Mary Don, daughter of the deceaſed Sir Alexander Don.

19. At Paiſley, Mrs. Mary Thomſon, wife of the Rev. John Finlay, one of the miniſters of Paiſley.

19. At Glaſgow, Mrs. Jean Mallard, wife of Mr. John Smith ſenior, bookſeller.

19. At Leith, George Middleton, Eſq; comptroller of the cuſtoms.

21. At Dumfries, Mrs. Aiken, wife of Mr. J. Aiken writer.

22. At Edinburgh, John C. Roſs, ſecond ſon of John Cockburn Roſs, Eſq; of Rocheſter.

22. At his houſe in Palace-Yard, the Moſt Noble Henry Fynes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcaſtle, Earl of Lincoln, and Knight of the Moſt Noble Order of the Garter, born April 20, 1728. He married, October 6, 1744, Catharine, eldeſt and only ſurviving daughter of the Right Hon. Henry Pelham, late Prime Miniſter, brother to the late Duke of Newcaſtle, and ſecond couſin to the late Duke of Rutland. His Grace never ſpoke after he was attacked by a ſtroke of the palſy on Wedneſday laſt.

His Grace is ſucceeded in his title and eſtates by his only ſon, Thomas Earl of Lincoln, a Major-General in the army, Colonel of the 17th regiment of dragoons, and repreſentative in Parliament for Eaſt Retford.

The preſent Duke of Newcaſtle, born July 1762, married January 25, 1782, Maria, youngeſt daughter of the late Earl of Harrington, by whom he has iſſue Anna-Maria, born Auguſt 1, 1789, John Pelham, now Earl of Lincoln, born January 31, 1785, three other ſons, and a daughter.

By the death of his Grace, the following places under Government become vacant: A ribbon of the order of the Garter, Lord Lieutenant and Cuſtos Rotulorum of Nottinghamſhire; Steward, Keeper, and Guardian of the foreſt of Sherwood and park of Tolwood, in the county of Nottingham; High Steward of Weſtminſter and Eaſt Retford; Preſident of the Weſtminſter Hoſpital; Comptroller of the Cuſtoms in the port of London, (the repreſentatives of the late Earl of Guildford have the reverſion of this place); and the Auditor of the Exchequer, (the ſalary of which will now be 4000l. in place of the former emoluments.)

23. At Edinburgh, Mr. James Playfair architect in London.

23. At Edinburgh, Mrs. Jean Patullo, daughter of J. Patullo of Kinnocktree.

23. At Lieth, Mr. Patrick Millar merchant.

23. At Woolwich, in his 96th year, Dr. Irwin, Surgeon-General to the Ordnance.

24. At London, Sir John Sebright, Bart. Colonel of the 18th regt. of foot.

24. At Aberdeen, Mrs. Jane Innes, wife of Mr. George More merchant.

25. At Perth, William Small of Kindrogan writer there.

26. At Edinburgh, Mr. Joſeph Lauchlan merchant.

27. Sir Francis Drake, Maſter of the King's Houſehold, and Keeper of Dartmore foreſt.

27. Sir William Burnaby, Bart. Captain in the Navy.

27. At Edinburgh, Mr. John Wilſon architect.

PREFERMENTS.

The Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Cornwallis, Biſhop of Litchfield and Coventry, is appointed Dean of Durham.

The Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Sutton, Biſhop of Norwich, to be Dean of Windſor.

Feb. 6. The Right Rev. Dr. Maddan, Biſhop of Briſtol, is tranſlated to the See of Peterborough.

8. John Hunter, Eſq; is appointed Captain General, and Governor in chief of the territory of New South Wales.

The Marquis of Abercorne is appointed one of his Majeſty's Moſt Hon. Privy Council in Ireland.

The Hon. Miſs Cathcart, ſiſter to Lord Cathcart, is appointed Maid of Honour to the Queen, in the room of Miſs J. Digby who has retired.

The Marquis of Worceſter, Vice Chamberlain to the King.

General Grenville, Out-ranger of Windſor Little Park.

PRO-

PROMOTIONS.

War Office, January 25.

81ſt foot. Maj Gen. Albemarle Bertie, from the 1ſt foot guards, to be Colonel. Maj. John Lewis, from the 64th foot, to be Lieutenant Colonel. Capt. Boyd Manningham, from 39th foot, to be Major.

Staff. Lieut Col J. Amherſt of the 10th foot, to be Deputy Adj General of the forces in S. Britain.

January 28.

Gen. Sir William Auguſtus Pitt, to be Governor of the garriſon of Portſmouth.

1ſt. r g. drag. Maj. Gen. Ph. Goldſworthy, to be Colonel. Lieut. Col. Garth of 2d drag. guards to be Lieutenant Colonel.

29th foot. Capt. Hugh Dickſon to be Major.

7th drag. guards. Maj. Dunne to be Lieutenant Colonel. Capt. Mahon from the 5th dragoons to be Major.

41ſt foot. Capt. William Thomas to be Major, vice Ellis.

49th foot. Major James Grant to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Danſey deceaſed. Capt. Thomas Gibſon to be Major, vice Grant.

SCOTS BRIGADE.

1ſt Bat. Lieut. Col. Commandant, George Cunningham.—Major, Alexander Hume.—Captains, Sir James Baird, Bart; Alexander Scott; Robert Montgomery; Thomas Vincent Reynolds; Patrick Ewing.—Captain Lieutenant, James Urquhart.

2d Bat. Lieut. Col. Commandant, Frederick Halket.—Major, John Stedman.—Captains, David Douglaſs; John Cameron; William Ramſay; James Munro; John Ramſay.

3d. Bat. Lieut. Col. Commandant, Ilay Ferrier.—Major, George Lind.—Captains, Colin Dundaſs Graham; James Durham; Thomas Meyrick; Alexander Cameron; Duncan Drummond.

STAFF.

Lieut. Col. A. Roſs of 76th, to be Aid-du-Camp to the king.

Major Charles Crawford, of the 2d dragoon guards, to be Deputy Adjutant General to the forces on the Continent, under the command of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York.

BREVET.

Capt. Sir James Baird, of the Scotch Brigade, to be Major in the army.

Capt. James Robertſon of the Marines, to be Major in the army.

Feb. 21. His Majeſty has been pleaſed to appoint Lieutenant Colonel, his Royal Highneſs Prince William to be Colonel in the army.

Army in Ireland. Colonel, the Hon. H. E. Fox, from 38th, to be Colonel commandant, *3d December.*

Lieut. Colonel Commandant Finches regiment of foot. Capt. Marcus Beresford to be Lieut Major, *31ſt October.*

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Jan. 25. William Roſs tanner in Glaſgow.

29. Gilbert M'Lure merchant in Ayr.

Feb. 5. John M'Kie merchant in Newton-Douglaſs

15. William Sangſter vintner in Stonehaven.

26. Henry Birkmyre and Co. cotton ſpinners in Glaſgow.

26. Ronald M'Donald merchant, Lochbay, Iſle of Sky.

28. James Carſon merchant, Newton-Douglaſs

28. James Fiſher and John Lennox tanners in Thornhill.

Prices of Grain at Hadington, February 28.

Wheat, 24s. Barley, 19s. Oats, 16s. 3d. Peaſe, 16s. Beans, 15s. 6d. Tears, 22s.

Edinburgh, February 28. Oat-meal 1s. 2d. Bear-meal, 10d. 2f. Peaſe-meal, 10d.

Edinburgh Bill of Burials for January.

Burial Places.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Grayfriars and Lady Yeſter's,	34	30	64
Weſt-kirk,	17	24	41
Canongate,	10	16	26
Calton,	23	22	45
Total	84	92	176

AGE.			
Under	2	61	
Between	2 & 5	22	
	5 & 10	7	
	10 & 20	5	
	20 & 30	7	
	30 & 40	16	
	40 & 50	13	
	50 & 60	17	
	60 & 70	15	
	70 & 80	9	
	80 & 90	4	
	90 & 100	2	
		176	
Increaſed,		42	

DISEASES, &c.	No.
Accident	1
Aged	14
Childbed	2
Chincough	6
Conſumption	21
Dropſy	3
Fever	17
Meaſles	3
Palſy	2
Small Pox	43
Stillborn	8
Teething	8
Convulſions	1
Bowelhive	17
Suddenly	4
Aſtma	4
Gout	1
Water in the head	3
Dropſy	16
Croup	1
Cancer	1

PRICES OF STOCKS.

Feb. 16.	Feb. 28.
Bank Stock 157	157½ 158
3 per cent. red. 67⅛	66⅞
3 per cent. conſ. 66⅝	65⅞ 66
4 per cent. conſ. 83⅜	82½
India Stock 200¾	200½
India Bonds 7s. prem.	—
LotteryTickets 16l. 14s.	17l. 10s.

THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For MARCH 1794.

OF THE FRENCH THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR,

EVERY thing muſt be intereſting that regards a people, whoſe influence has always been important on the affairs of Europe; who, at the preſent hour, exhibit a ſcene unexampled in the annals of mankind; and on whoſe fate, perhaps, in a great degree, depend the manners which are in future to characterize the ſurrounding nations.

I have been induced, by theſe conſiderations, to beſtow much attention, of late, on the inveſtigation of both the ancient and the modern ſtate of that kingdom.

If a few of the notes, which I make in the courſe of my enquiries, can be of any uſe to you, and afford information or amuſement to your readers, they ſhall be occaſionally ſent.

I mean, at preſent, to offer ſome remarks on the *French Theatre*.

THE eleventh century, notwithſtanding its profound ignorance, gave birth to the poets who wrote in *Roman*, that is, in the corrupted Roman language, which had become the vulgar tongue.

They made themſelves more known in the twelfth century, under the names of *Inventors*, *Story-tellers*, *Singers*, and *Jugglers*. Their works were void of rule, ſublimity, and correctneſs; but they poſſeſſed ſimplicity, ingenuouſneſs, and ſometimes agreeable ſtrokes of wit.

Theſe ſparks of poetry appear chiefly in the two extremities of the kingdom, Provence and Picardy. With the poetical flame, a ſpirit of gallantry was diffuſed through France. In Provence there was the famous *Court of Love*; and Picardy, its rival, had its *Sports and Paſtimes under the Elm*.

The *Troubadours*, whom we have above called *Inventors*, compoſed ſome comedies, of which there is only one left, entituled, *De l'Heregia del Preyres*, *Of the Hereſy of Prieſts*. The author's name was Anſelm Faidit, a man of pleaſure, who carried off from a convent a young lady of quality. He afterwards married her. They paſſed their time in travelling from one court to another, where ſuch gueſts were always wellcome.

The fourteenth century produced fewer poets than the preceding ages. The ſhortneſs of the reign of Philip the Long, was an irreparable loſs to the provençal poetry. In this century we find one tragic poet, Paraſols, a native of Limoſin, or of Ciſteron, who compoſed five beautiful tragedies on the ſubject of the atchievements of Jane Queen of Naples.

In the fifteenth century, the hiſtory, properly ſpeaking, of the French Theatre commences. The oldeſt plays we have of this period are, *The Myſteries of Religion*. It was not then accounted profanation to introduce ſacred ſubjects upon the ſtage. This proceeded partly from the low ideas men entertained of of thoſe things, and partly from the cuſtom of repreſentation in divine ſervice. A play was, indeed, only a ſupplement to that ſervice, and was even uſually acted in the church-yards or burrying-grounds.

About the middle of this fifteenth century, John Michel compoſed a play which conſiſted of an hiſtorical ſeries of the life of Jeſus Chriſt, from his baptiſm

to his reſurrection. It is not divided into acts, nor have the ſcenes any connection. When the perſonages on the ſtage had ſaid what they meant to ſay, they retired, and others came on, who diſcourſed on quite another ſubject. After a ſufficient number of ſcenes the day ended, without any other reaſon but that they had ſpoken a certain length of time; the ſpectators departed, and the next day as much more was exhibited. This employed ſeveral days.

Moſt of the plays of the Paſſion were a kind of opera, they contained machinery and muſic. Some of theſe pious repreſentations were in dumb ſhow, and they were uſed as ornaments in public rejoicings.

All the ancient French plays, however, were not taken from Scripture, or from the lives of ſaints. They had alſo *Farces* and *Mummeries*. One, called the *Farce of Pathelin*, contains many pleaſantries. To judge of it from the language, it muſt have been compoſed near about the time of Louis XII. but there are paſſages in it which do not ſeem unworthy of the age, or even the pen of Moliere.

Under the reign of Francis, a taſte for the Belles-Lettres, became more diffuſive; all the arts, all the ſciences, revived. Anthony Foreſtier, and James Bourgeois wrote comedies at that time, but they are probably loſt.

The firſt of all the French tragedies is Jodelle's Cleopatra.

This is a compoſition of great ſimplicity; no action—no repreſentation—a mixture of high and low language. There continues always on the ſtage a chorus in the antique manner, which concludes every act with a mere jumble of moral ſentences. This piece, which was acted at Paris before Henry II. met with prodigious applauſe. The ſame poet wrote likewiſe a tragedy of Dido, and two comedies. The manners of thoſe pieces were exceſſively licentious; indeed the age of Henry II. deſpiſed alike both virtue and decorum.

About the ſame period, John Anthony de Baif, and John de la Peruſe wrote alſo for the theatre. This latter produced a play entituled, *Of the Sinner juſtified by Faith*.

Robert Garnier appeared under Henry III. His friends have laviſhed on this author the moſt extravagant praiſes; they have ever called him ſuperior to the ancient Greek poets. He was in truth very imperfect. He poſſeſſes, without doubt, more energy than Jodelle. But his pieces are not better conſtructed.

To Garnier ſucceeded Alexander Hardy, a Pariſian, the moſt fertile, perhaps, of all the authors who have ſtudied for the ſtage in France. He wrote 600 pieces. We have only however to read theſe productions to ceaſe to wonder at this unuſual fertility; for the verſification, and the diſpoſition of the ſubjects, have evidently coſt him little pains. Nor do the laws of decorum appear to have had any influence upon him.

Mairet and Rotrou alſo acquired reputation by their works; but all theſe poets were eclipſed as ſoon as the great Corneille appeared.

Corneille was born in 1606. His firſt piece was *Melite*, acted in 1624, the incident from which the plot is taken took place in a citizen's houſe at Rouen.

A novelty of execution, and originality of genius were at once diſcoverable in this juvenile production, from which were deduced happy preſages of theatrical improvement. Were we to eſtimate the firſt ſix or ſeven pieces of Corneille by the brilliant talents, which afterwards ſhone forth in this author, they would ſeem to have been unworthy of him; but when we recollect the times in which he lived, we muſt admit, that an extraordinary genius only could produce them. Compared with Hardy's pieces, *Melite* is admirable.

The patronage of the great Cardinal Richelieu, was at this time of ſignal advantage to the ſtage. His miniſtry at once cheriſhed the muſe of Corneille, of Rotrou, Mairet, Triſtan, Scudery, Du Ryer, and of many others, whoſe names are forgotten.

Theatrical rules began now to be thought of, particularly that of the three unities; but moſt authors ſtill deſpiſed, and even openly derided ſuch reſtraints.

Tragi-

Tragi-comedy was at this period pretty much in uſe; it conſiſted of a medley of bad tragedy, and a kind of comedy much of the ſame quality. The ſubjects were generally fictitious, and romantic. It was uſual to prefix to ſuch pieces long explanatory arguments.

The purification of the theatre, in a conſiderable degree, is one of the greateſt obligations we are under to Corneille. He was at firſt carried along with the current of faſhion; but he ſoon reſiſted it. After Clitandre, his ſecond piece, we find nothing licentious in his works.

In Medea, he ſeemed to ſoar to the ſublimeſt tragic heights. But, in the Cid, he ſhowed himſelf greater and more powerful than he had yet been. No theatrical piece had ever commanded ſo much ſucceſs. It even excited the jealouſy of Richelieu; alarmed at the high reputation which Corneille had acquired, he encouraged ſeveral authors to write againſt the Cid, and he put himſelf at their head. M. de Scudery publiſhed obſervations on that piece. Some time afterwards the French academy gave to the world a performance on the ſame ſubject, worthy of the eminent reputation of that riſing ſociety.

The ſame year that gave birth to the Cid, produced the Mariamne of Triſtan, another celebrated piece which ſtood its ground on the Theatre above a century.

After having attained that high eminence to which the production of the Cid entitled him, Corneille roſe ſtill higher by being announced the author of the Horatii. He went on progreſſively to Cinna and to Polyeuctus, to which, we may almoſt ſay, nothing can be ſuperior.

Thoſe pieces were of an unknown ſpecies. A new theatre appeared; Corneille, by ſtudying Ariſtotle and Horace, by his experience, by his reflection, and ſtill more by his genius, caught the true rules of the dramatic poem, and diſcovered the ſources of the beautiful, which he afterwards laid open to all the world in the excellent diſcourſes prefixed to his plays. Hence it is that he is conſidered as the father of the French Drama. He was the firſt that gave it a rational form, at the ſame time that he raiſed it to the higheſt degree of perfection.

The remainder of Corneille's pieces ſhow what muſt almoſt neceſſarily happen to a great man, who continues writing to the end of his life. His firſt productions are imperfect; but conſidering the age he lived in, already worthy of admiration. Afterwards he ſoars as high as his art can reach: in the end he grows languid, ſinks gradually, and no longer reſembles what he was but by intervals.

The moſt perfect human productions are not void of defects. In Corneille's beſt pieces we meet with obſolete words, ſometimes embaraſſed ſpeeches, and paſſages favouring of declamation.

Corneille ſaw the taſte of the age turning entirely towards paſſionate love, without almoſt any mixture of heroiſm; but with this taſte he nobly diſdained to comply.

John Racine, born in 1639, the illuſtrious rival of Corneille, ought now to be mentioned.——But, at preſent, it is probable you would not chuſe to beſtow more room on a ſubject, which, if this is received favourably, ſhall be reſumed on a future occaſion.

M ANNOTATOR.

THE STUDY OF POLITE LITERATURE DEFENDED.

(CONCLUDED.)

"THE political cauſes which principally influence the manners of a nation, create and perfect the Belles Lettres; theſe, in their turn, are not deſtitute of effects; for in the moral world, effects re-act upon their cauſes. Before the queſtion be examined, whether the influence of elegant learning be uſeful or injurious, the nature of this influence ought to be aſcertained.

"Of ſome few, the entire attention is devoted to polite learning: In others, by employing thoſe vacant hours which can be ſpared from buſineſs or trivial purſuits, polite literature becomes a rich ſource of innocent pleaſure, opens a large field for imagination, quickens ſenſibility, extends the knowledge of human nature, refines the ſentiments, deſtroys groſſer attachments, and gives birth to a more deli-

delicate choice of amuſements, to more exquiſite recreations, to a more enlightened intercourſe. Inacceſſible to all but men of ſcience, many truths have, by the help of elegant learning, been generally diffuſed; and from the ſuperiority of the objects of its inquiry, the human underſtanding has increaſed its penetration. And can it be imagined, that ſuch effects would be injurious? No, it is anſwered, not ſo much, on a ſuperficial ſurvey, as they will appear on a more accurate inſpection. The pleaſures of imagination are often indulged to an immoderate degree? by refinment, converſation becomes leſs ſincere: the Belles Lettres, adminiſtering amuſements which lead to vices, and often exerciſed on criminal ſubjects, prove the cauſes of effeminacy, and the corruptors of manners.

"There is nothing, however excellent and laudable it may be, that is not ſubject to inconvenience, and liable to abuſe. Without entering upon a new defence of our preſent political and moral ſituation, I ſhall content myſelf with referring to what has already been ſaid reſpecting the neceſſity of that ſituation. When we reflect, that the Belles Lettres cannot flouriſh except amongſt a people who have arrived at a certain degree of eaſe and opulence, the ſureſt mode of aſcertaining whether they are uſeful or pernicious, will be to compare two nations placed on the ſame degree in the ſcale of civilization, one of which cultivates the polite arts, and the other neglects them entirely. Polite literature and the ſciences, mutually aſſiſt each other. It is difficult to arrive at the latter, without paſſing through the former: it would be madneſs to think of attaining the ſciences, while the ſtudy of the Belles Lettres was proſcribed. It is phyſically impoſſible, that the human mind ſhould expatiate in the vaſt field of intellectual exertion, while ſo abſurd a barrier is oppoſed to our progreſs. The only difference between ſcience and the polite arts is this, that the firſt acts more upon the underſtanding, and the latter have a greater influence on manners and the conduct of life.

"Let us then imagine to ourſelves, as I have already obſerved, two nations enjoying an equal portion of ſecurity and welfare; in each of theſe nations will exiſt the ſame degree of ſenſuality and luxury, and thence in each nation will ariſe the ſame defects and the ſame vices.

"But if one of theſe nations was deſtitute of elegant learning, unſuſceptible of any refined pleaſure, and ſolely addicted to ſenſual enjoyments, it would ſoon become the victim of indolence, cowardice, and effeminacy. Such has been the fate of thoſe nations, which, without knowledge, have obtained power. Of this, the Perſians, Macedonians, and Turks, are ſufficient examples. A ſimilar deſtiny will be experienced by thoſe people who, without attending to the cultivation of their minds, enjoy merely the conveniences of life. The European colonies are proofs of this aſſertion.

"On the contrary, in another nation, equally powerful and proſperous, the culture of elegant learning will produce congenial ſentiments of patriotiſm. Independently of the diffuſion of uſeful knowledge, polite literature excites and cheriſhes moral feelings, which by reſtraining ſenſual pleaſures within proper limits, excite and encourage men of talents, by the hopes of immortal fame. This is a motive, which on the firſt repoſe of Rome from the yoke of deſpotiſm, animated the genius of Tacitus and Pliny; and which, preſerving for a time the ancient grandeur of the empire, rendered leſs precipitate the fall of the Roman world. This argument will obtain additional force, by conſidering European nations, which, with forms of government nearly ſimilar, poſſeſs different degrees of knowledge.

"It remains, that I ſhould mention thoſe faults which have been objected to the votaries of taſte; faults ſcarcely deſerving notice, when urged as ſerious reproaches.

"The charms of poetry, it is alledged have been proſtituted in fulſome flattery upon the moſt unworthy monarchs. But we certainly ought not to charge poetry with its abuſe. Was the ſovereign, who admired and rewarded flattery, ever deſtitute of ſycophants?

To

To the princes who have deſpiſed or neglected literature, flatterers have not been wanting, not even to Caligula, who profanely wiſhed to deſtroy the works of Virgil. Lewis the XIV. has perhaps been too highly praiſed: but Lewis, really great, was inſtigated by praiſe itſelf to noble actions. In the ſame age, Butler and Dryden were allowed to languiſh in poverty, by Charles the II. while he ſupported miniſters who encouraged his effeminate indolence, and courtiers who entertained his voluptuous levity. Let us view mankind as they are. Few of their own characters: thoſe of the generality ariſe from circumſtances. Between flattery and elegant learning there is no cloſe connection: on the contrary, the firſt and moſt natural effect of the Belles Lettres is to elevate the mind. But when found to be the road to preferment, adulation will alike be purſued by the indigent, the ambitious, the ſcholar, the courtier, and the warrior. In ſuch a ſituation, men of letters deſerve our outmoſt pity, as the monuments of their genius perpetuate their diſhonour. Happy the author who can ſafely utter truth, and who is ſufficiently ſpirited to exerciſe that valuable privilege.

"The moſt enraptured votaries of learning, who are bleſſed with a fruitful and ardent imagination, are unqualified, it is affirmed, for thoſe duties of life which require reflection: their behaviour is generally ſingular, and their reſtleſs mind is the ſport of unruly paſſions.

"But of this remark, liable to ſo many exceptions, what is the inference?

"It proves only, that mankind ſhould follow the impulſe and direction of nature. If they feel a ſtrong incitement to elegant learning, why ſhould they reſiſt its pleaſing influence? In obeying the dictates of nature, they are moſt likely to be uſeful to themſelves and to ſociety; and the fire of genius, inſtead of being injurious, will animate them to the purſuit of knowledge and virtue.

"Far, therefore, from being condemned, the culture of elegant learning ought to be highly encouraged. The leiſure which they have devoted to the Belles Lettres, will not be regreted by thoſe who regard them merely as an amuſement; they will hence learn to arrange their thoughts, to give dignity to the paſſions. Capable of procuring for themſelves a ſublime and heart-felt ſatisfaction, they will deſpiſe the noiſy pleaſures which captivate the croud. Thoſe who feel themſelves impelled to devote their principal attention to polite learning, will not fail of an adequate reward.

"If the Belles Lettres afford a neceſſary aid to ſcience; if they poliſh the manners, mitigate or diminiſh the pernicious effects of proſperity; if they communicate pleaſures frugal and profitable; if they brighten the gloom of ſolitude, and comfort the heart in the hour of affliction; if, by inſtilling the love of virtue, they elevate the mind to patriotic ſentiments: then muſt their votaries not be accounted uſeleſs members of ſociety. Then may they contemn the railings of ignorance and prejudice, and expect the eſteem of every liberal mind. From an enlightened government they have a right to protection: from poſterity they may promiſe themſelves that fame which they deſerve."

CHARACTERISTICAL SKETCHES OF EMINENT BRITONS.

HENRIETTA MARIA OF BOURBON, QUEEN OF CHARLES I.

HENRIETTA MARIA, daughter of Henry the Great of France, and conſort of Charles I. was a princeſs of great beauty, and uncommon addreſs, but bigotted, intriguing, and attached to the manners and cuſtoms of her country. Her beauty and accompliſhments gave her an abſolute ſway over the mind of Charles, who tenderly loved her, their marriage having been (which is ſeldom the caſe with princes) an union of affection on both ſides. Her education, under her mother Mary de Medicis, gave her early a turn for interfering in politics; a ſource to which many of Charles' errors were aſcribed by the popular party. Her exertions, however, in the civil wars, were beyond what could have been

been expected in one of her ſex; and ſhe diſplayed much of the abilities, and happy talent for reſources, which ſo remarkably diſtinguiſhed her father Henry. On her landing from the Hague, where ſhe had gone for the purpoſe of raiſing men and money for the ſupport of the war, ſhe herſelf headed the auxiliaries ſhe brought with her; and had the king, on her arrival, followed her advice of marching directly to London, inſtead of waſting time in the ſiege of Glouceſter, it is more than probable he might have brought matters to an accommodation; for, in a civil war, more eſpecially in a trading country, the fate of the capital, in general, determines the conteſt. The arreſt of the five members, the fatal ſtep which precipitated Charles' fall, was alſo againſt her advice, and ſhe early recommended to him to change the place of parliamentary attendance to York or Oxford, ſo as to divide the ſtrength of the parties; an advice, which, if followed, might have been productive of good effects.

She lived till after the reſtoration of her ſon Charles II. whom ſhe followed to England on that great event. To ſuch ſtraits was ſhe reduced during Cromwell's uſurpation, as to be obliged to ſolicit ſupport from that hand which had ſhed her huſband's blood; a ſevere reflection againſt the generoſity, and even humanity of princes to each other. On re-entering Somerſet-houſe, at the Reſtoration, ſhe declared, "that if ſhe had known the temper of the Engliſh ſome years before, as well as ſhe did then, ſhe had never been obliged to leave that houſe;" a ſuggeſtion which inſinuated her aſcendency over Charles, and confirms what has been remarked, that had he been left to himſelf, his reign might have been fortunate, and his people happy.

She died at Paris, whither ſhe had retired on account of the plague, and was ſaid privately to have married the accompliſhed Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans.

ANECDOTES OF CHARLES I.

In peruſing the hiſtory of Charles, a number of circumſtances occur, which, from their coincidence with the after fate of the unhappy prince, cannot fail to ſtrike the reader.

1. Charles's buſt, executed at Rome by the famous Bernini, was brought to his houſe at Chelſea, where the king, attended by a number of the nobility, went to view it. As they were examining it, we are told, a hawk flew over their heads with a partridge in his claws, from which there fell ſome drops of blood that ſtained the neck of the ſtatue.

2. In the courſe of the civil wars, when at Oxford, Charles was deſired by Lord Falkland, with the view of amuſing him, as they inſpected the Library of the Univerſity, to try the *Sortes virgiliana*. The paſſage which caſt up was ſo remarkable, and ſo applicable to his ſituation, even then, that it could not fail to ſtrike him in a moſt ſenſible manner. It is thus expreſſed in Dryden's tranſlation, Book 4. verſe 883. (Dido's curſe againſt Æneas.)

'Oppreſs'd with numbers in th' unequal field,
His men diſcourag'd, and himſelf expell'd;
Let him for ſuccour ſue from place to place,
Torn from his ſubjects, and his ſons' embrace:
Firſt let him ſee his friends in battle ſlain,
And their untimely fate lament in vain:
And when at length the cruel war ſhall ceaſe,
On hard conditions may he buy his peace:
Nor let him then enjoy ſupreme command
But fall untimely by ſome hoſtile hand,
And lie unburied on the barren ſand.'

3. During Charles's trial, the head of the cane on which he leaned, ſuddenly broke off, which, though caſual, could not fail, in the peculiar ſituation in which he then ſtood, to affect him.

4. At the trial, one of the by-ſtanders ſpat in the king's face, but he, without ſpeaking, or even looking at the traitor, calmly wiped his cheek with a handkerchief. In this he manifeſted a greatneſs of ſoul that had ſomething in it more than heroic, and almoſt more than human. But what words can expreſs our deteſtation of the ruffian who could perpetrate ſuch a deed.

5. The day of his execution was the 30th of January, in reading the leſſon of that day in the liturgy, Charles was not a little ſtruck, and ſuppoſed it had been ſelected by Juxon on deſign, it being that part of the paſſion of our Saviour,

where